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GENERAL STUDIES COMMENT SHEET 1820

Name of Candidate	Neepa Manocha		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	**Registration Number**	1253004
Center		**Date**	

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न–पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI**
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न–सह–उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. **Contextual Competence**
2. **Content Competence**
3. **Language Competence**
4. **Introduction Competence**
5. **Structure - Presentation Competence**
6. **Conclusion Competence**

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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1. What do you understand by 'constitutionalism'? Highlight various ways in which the Indian Constitution underscores this principle. **(150 words) 10**

'संविधानवाद' से आप क्या समझते हैं? भारतीय संविधान में इस सिद्धांत को रेखांकित करने वाले विभिन्न उपबंधों पर प्रकाश डालिए।

Constitution is the supreme law of land. It lays down the set of aspirations, ideals and expectations of the governed.

Constitutionalism is a doctrine that limits the powers and role of the governing body to rules, laws, values and spirit enumerated by the Constitution

The ways in which the Indian constitution underscores the principles of constitutionalism are as follows:-

① Imposes obligation upon the state to ensure socio-economic democracy according to the DIRECTIVE PRINCIPLES OF STATE POLICY

② Makes the government accountable to the elected representatives through Article 75 of the constitution

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③ Ensures separation of Powers and system of checks and balances (Article 50, 122, 212, 121, 211, 361)

④ Ensures effective distribution of power through precise allocation (7th schedule)

⑤ Supremacy of Fundamental Rights & their enforcement (Article 32)

⑥ Curbs misuse of administrative and legislative powers through an independent judiciary and scope for judicial review (Article 13)

⑦ Free and fair elections for substanciative democracy (Article 324)

Although the executive and parliament have tried to impose their supremacy through overriding legislations, yet through Judgements like Kesavnanda Bharati case, Miaerva Mills, I.R. Coehlan, the supreme courts have ensured the sanctity of Constitutionalism through the Basic Structure Doctrine

Hence, Constitutionalism is the foundation stone of Indian Democracy

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2. Mention various initiatives taken for online delivery of judicial services in India. Also, discuss the challenges faced in their implementation.

(150 words) 10

भारत में न्यायिक सेवाओं की ऑनलाइन प्रदायगी के लिए प्रारंभ विभिन्न पहलों का उल्लेख कीजिए। साथ ही, उनके कार्यान्वयन में आने वाली चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

With 4.77 crore cases pending in lower & higher judiciary, situation aggravated by lockdown during the pandemic, there is a need for technology integration to make justice delivery quick, efficient and cost effective.

For the same various initiatives have been taken for online delivery of judicial services including:-

1) e-Courts Mission :- For integrating e governance in case filing, tracking and redressal

2) Legal & Information Management and Briefing system - For cases of various ministeries and department

3) Live streaming of proceedings - Gujarat High court

4) Interoperable criminal Judicial System :- For data transfer between police, courts, prisons forensic labs etc.

5) Recently Justice N.V Ramanna also launched an app for journalists to access court

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proceedings & recordings.
However, these initiatives have been riddled with the following challenges:-

1) Lack of funds and necessary infrastructure for technology adaption
2) Overburdened judiciary and lack of training on use of new modes
3) Digital illiteracy and lack of tech savvy judges & lawyers.
4) Threat of cyber attacks on stored data
5) Possibility of technology being used for surveillance & monitoring
6) Privacy concerns in case of live streaming of cases
7) Inaccessibility to the poor population.

Therefore, online judicial services will bring in accountability, transparency and convinience for the users of justice, yet training, awareness & financial support needs to be ensured so that technology integration doesnt become exclusionary in nature

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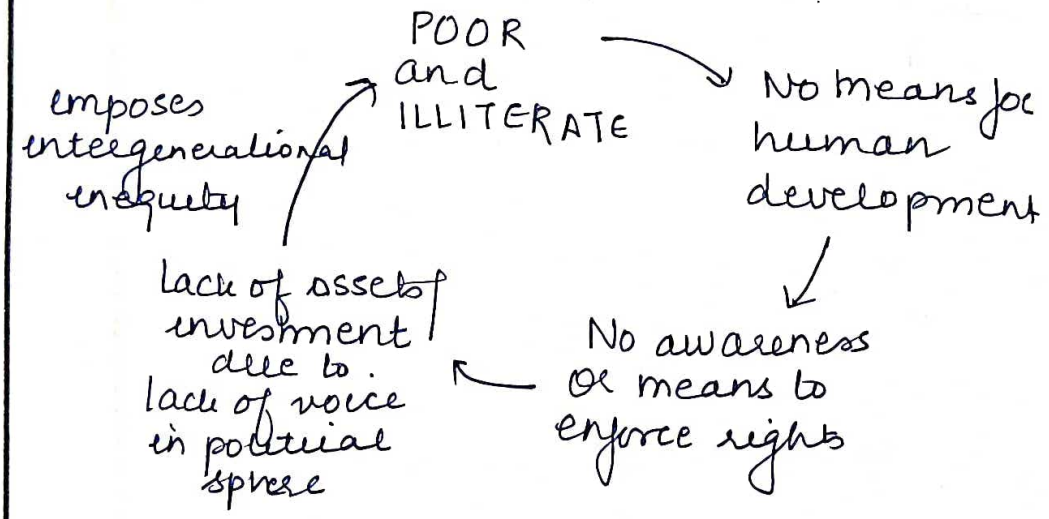
3. Illiteracy and poverty are hindrances in the formation of healthy public opinion on public policies. Discuss with suitable examples. **(150 words) 10**
निरक्षरता और निर्धनता सार्वजनिक नीतियों के संबंध में स्वस्थ जनमत के निर्माण में बाधक हैं। उपयुक्त उदाहरणों के साथ विवेचना कीजिए।

With more than 9% of population in extreme poverty and about 35% of world's poor residing in India, the country faces serious threat to socio-economic democracy.

Illiteracy and poverty reinforce a vescious circle of lack of agency.



The cycle is further augmented by :-

1) Lack of education & information about rights and entitlements

(Eg :- Jharkhand → Girl couldnt enforce right to food due to no information and poverty (Death due to non linking of Aadhar card)

2) Cannot get themselves enrolled in government schemes

(Eg : - Migrants (due to different state Ration card) in Pandemic)

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3) Cannot make use of instruments which enable healthy public opinion (eg :- Social Audit ; RTI, citizen charter)
(Eg :- RTI fees too high for poor household)

4) Cannot hold politicians accountable, mercy of freebies in elections

However, there have been some instances to contrary (Farmer Protests, CAA Activism) which shows that awareness + evoking response can go a long way in forming opinion on public policies and remedy poverty & illiteracy ultimately.

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4. Why did Dr. B.R. Ambedkar see the CAG as "probably the most important officer in the Constitution of India"? Discuss the issues faced in the functioning of CAG. **(150 words) 10**

डॉ. बी. आर. अम्बेडकर ने कैग (CAG) को "संभवतः भारत के संविधान में सबसे महत्वपूर्ण अधिकारी" के रूप में क्यों माना है? कैग के कामकाज के समक्ष उत्पन्न होने वाले मुद्दों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Article 148-151 lays down the provisions regarding the comptroller and Auditor general of India.

Dr. B.R ambedkar claimed the indespensible nature of this officer and CAG has been rightly called the GAURDIAN OF PUBLIC PURSE. This is due to:-

1) Responsible for audit of accounts of central, states and local bodies which may be extended to include banks & public sector undertakings and hence works as trustee of taxpayer money

2) Watchdog of Economy :- Role not only limited to Propriety/Legal Audit (ensuring authenticity of source & destination of funds) but also Performance/Efficiency Audit (ensuring economy/outcome of funds)

3) Coordinates with Public Accounts Committee and committee on PSU's

4) Has helped to unearth various scams like 2G & coalgate)

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However, the following issues are faced in functioning of CAG :-

1) Postmortem role :- criticism because of reactive role over proactive role

2) single member body :- Biases in judgement may crep up, overburdened office and ineffecient management of workforce.

3) Dubious appointment system with executive involvement & lack of prescribed qualification

4) No mechanism to ensure action taken on reports making it a paper tiger

The role of CAG becomes even more important when the other institutions of vegulance including CBI, CVC, CIC are witnessing weakening functioning due to appointment & structural flaws & courts are overburdened with pendency.

CAG is the bullwark of democracy and hence transparency & objectivity in its role, appointment & functions must be ensured.

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5. Bring out the similarities and differences in the Bill of Rights in the Constitution of the United States and Fundamental Rights in the Constitution of India. **(150 words) 10**

संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका के संविधान में उपबंधित बिल ऑफ राइट्स और भारत के संविधान में मूल अधिकारों के मध्य समानताओं और भिन्नताओं को रेखांकित कीजिए।

The Bill of Rights in the United States of America and Fundamental Rights enumerated in Part III of the Constitution in India are Magna Carta of justiciable enforceable and legally tenable rights.

The following similarities are observed in the Bill of Rights and Fundamental Rights :-

1) Based on the ideas of John Locke, Rousseau and the social contract theory, which states that the governing authority is bound to ensure well being and safety of their subjects.

2) Entail Human rights that ensure natural justice including right to life, freedom of expression, right against discrimination.

3) legally enforceable in courts of laws & adequate remedies available

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However, the two differ on following counts:-

FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS (INDIA)	BILL OF RIGHTS (USA)
Find a place in the original constitution	Added by way of an ammendement in 1791.
Work on the principle of PROCEDURE ESTABLISHED BY LAW.	Work on the principle of DUE PROCESS OF LAW.
Tweaked to suit the Indian context including Positive & Affirmative actions in form of reservations, prohibition of untouchability etc.	Have stood the test of time and more or less remained same.
Exhaustive list is specified other rights may be legal but not fundamental	Specifies that Bill is a non-exhaustive rights document.
For eg:- Freedom of Press is under Freedom of Expression No Fundamental Right to Property	Freedom of Press is a separate right - Fundamental Right to Property exists

Inspite of the above differences both ensure substantiative justice for their citizen & guide the two democracies

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6. There are various issues related to appointments in higher judiciary in India that need urgent attention. Discuss in context of the recent report by the Parliamentary Standing Committee for the Ministry of Law and Justice.

(150 words) 10

भारत में उच्चतर न्यायपालिका में की जाने वाली नियुक्तियों मे संदर्भ में विभिन्न मुद्दे विद्यमान हैं जिन पर तत्काल ध्यान दिए जाने की आवश्यकता है। विधि और न्याय विभाग संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी समिति की हालिया रिपोर्ट के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

There exists a 39% vacancy in higher courts. This leads to a huge pendency in cases and hence leads to delay in decision making.

The Recent report by the parliamentary standing committee for Ministry of Law & Justice has highlighted the following issues in appointment of higher judiciary:

① Delays in appointment :- The MOP (Memorandum of Procedure) lays down the process & timelines for appointments which is rarely adhered to.

For eg :- Appointment of HC (High court judge)

CJI of HC initiates proposal → State govt approval → Union Ministry of Law & Justice Approval → SC collegium approval → President appoints

There are delays in every step. It takes about 41 days for HC judge appointment and 5-7 months for district judge appointment

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(2) The number of sanctioned judges is not based on scientific formula & is adhoc & random with no consideration of litigation trends, disposal rates and Judge productivity

(3) There is a huge rate of rejection (40-50%) at each level.

(4) Composition of judges donot reflect socio-economic & cultural diversity of India: Inadequate representation to women, backward classes and transgenders, which translates into lack of inclusivity in the verdicts.

In the era of rising number of judicial cases and judicial emergency, an inclusive, rational and well laid down appointment procedure is indespensible, which can be followed in letter & spirit

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7. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) effectively reflects a shift from the era of Licence Raj to a conducive regulatory ambience for enhancing consumer welfare by encouraging competition in the market. Discuss.

(150 words) 10

भारतीय प्रतिस्पर्धा आयोग (CCI) बाजार में प्रतिस्पर्धा को प्रोत्साहित करके उपभोक्ता कल्याण को बढ़ाने के लिए लाइसेंस राज के युग से एक अनुकूल नियामकीय परिवेश में स्थानांतरण को प्रभावी ढंग से प्रदर्शित करता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

1991 liberalisation reforms were a watershed movement in the regulatory landscape of the country.

One of the ripple effect of the reform was creation of Competition Commission of India (CCI), in 2009 which was a statutory body under the Competition Act of 2002. This act replaced the erstwhile MRTP Act (Monopolistic & Restrictive trade practices) Act.

The role of CCI was enumerated to be a FACILITATOR OF COMPETION than a PROHIBITOR in the following ways:-

1) It was envisaged to regulate combinations (acquisitions/takeovers) abuse of dominant positions and overseeing anticompetive agreements that have appreciable adverse affect on competition of India

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2) It seeks to promote consumer welfare by ensuring cartelisation/monopolisation is restricted and consumers pay fair price.

3) It prevents market distortions through collusive agreements.

4) It safeguards domestic interests through regulation of International companies.

For eg:- CCI recent regulations against tyre companies, marine shipping companies, & Google colluding with handset makers have helped ensure healthy competition in market.

CCI > NO UNFAIR MARKET PRACTICES > HEALTHY COMPETION > CHOICE + LOWERING PRICES + IMPROVING QUALITY > CONSUMER WELFARE.

Thus the revamped role of the regulator has led to economic freedom for both producers & consumers unlike the previous regimes of regulatory cholesterol that stifled initiative

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8. Enumerate the various kinds of writs in the Indian judicial framework and state the remedial significance of writs. (150 words) 10

भारतीय न्यायिक ढांचे में विद्यमान विभिन्न प्रकार के रिटों को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए और इनके उपचारात्मक महत्व को स्पष्ट कीजिए।

Article 32 and Article 226 gives the Right to constitutional Remedies which mandates the supreme court and High court to issue writs for enforcement of Fundamental Rights.

The various kinds of WRITS in the Indian Judicial Framework include:-

HABEAS CORPUS → Demanding presence of someone illegally detained by private/public authority

MANDAMUS – 'Resume duty' command to public official who has failed to perform duty

PROHIBITION – Forbiding a lower court from exceeding/usurping jurisdiction (Preventive in Nature)

CERTIORARI – Ordering lower court to transfer case/quash order due to excess jurisdiction (Curative in nature)

QUO WARRANTO – Enquiry into the legality of claim of person for public office

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Remedial significance of writs

- Article 32 - brings other rights to life by providing grievance redressal mechanism
- Based on social contract theory, based on Judiciary being protector of fundamental rights of people.
- Imposition of penalty, injunction, punishment against both private & public office.
- Ensures complete justice and harmony and public trust.

The remedial powers of the Article 32 and prerogative writs is such that B.R Ambedkar called it the HEART and SOUL of the CONSTITUTION, without which all other rights will fall into nullity.

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9. Giving the rationale behind the formation of a separate Ministry of Cooperation, discuss the ways to deepen Co-operatives as a true people centric movement in India. (150 words) 10

एक पृथक सहकारिता मंत्रालय के गठन के पीछे निहित तर्क प्रस्तुत करते हुए, भारत में एक वास्तविक जन केंद्रित आंदोलन के रूप में सहकारिता को सुदृढ़ करने के तरीकों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

The government of India in July 2021, created a new Ministry of cooperation by separating it from the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer welfare.

The rationale for the formation of a separate ministry includes:-

1) Embolden the community based Development model that was pioneered by cooperatives like Amul, by Mr. Varghese Kurien during operation Flood.

2) Provide a separate Administrative, legal and policy framework for cooperatives, including ones engaged in diary farming, textiles, sugar mills, banks etc.

3) Help cooperatives become a people based movement, reaching upto grassroots

4) Streamline processes for Ease of doing Business for cooperatives and enable development of Multi state cooperative societies.

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Inspite of these administrative efforts, the cooperatives cannot become a People centric movement unless :-

- Adequate credit, members Training and Infrastructural facilities are made available.
- Regional imbalance with only a handful of states (Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka) benefitting is tackled
- Technology integration is made possible (Eg:- Kisan Drone Policy for FPO's (Farmer Producer Organisation))
- Increased cooperation through Bank-SHG-Cooperative linkages with empowerment of women farmers and women stakeholders
- Single window clearance & regulatory handholding

Thus, on one hand where service sector is seeing booming startups and unicorns, grassroot agricultural & primary cooperatives can make growth more Inclusive and story of development backed by Jan Andolan

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10. Highlighting the key provisions of The Tribunals Reforms Bill, 2021, discuss whether it can help in addressing the issues pertaining to tribunals in India. **(150 words) 10**

अधिकरण सुधार अधिनियम, 2021 के प्रमुख प्रावधानों को रेखांकित करते हुए, चर्चा कीजिए कि क्या यह भारत में अधिकरणों से संबंधित मुद्दों को संबोधित करने में सहायता कर सकता है।

Tribunals are quasi judicial bodies with powers limited to an area of expertise and seeking to reduce the burden of existing judicial system in India

The Tribunal Reforms bills, 2021 seeks to replace an earlier ordinance dealing with Rationalisation & conditions of service.

Various provisions of the bill include:-

ADDRESSES ISSUES	DOESNT ADDRESS
(1) Absolve certain appellate tribunals	
↳ Streamline tribunals	↳ Dissolution add to burden of existing courts
↳ Saves considerable cost to exchequer	↳ Defeats purpose of formation
	↳ Lack of technical expertise degrade quality of judgement
(2) Formation of search cum selection committees to determine appointment and conditions of service (including removal)	

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↳ Tenure bound appointments ↳ Judicial Role in appointments (chairman - SC judge / CJI)	↳ Lack of Discussion on bill ↳ same provision struck down in Madras Bar association case (2021) ↳ Non adherence to recommendation of forming National Tribunals Commission

③ 4 year term of office, Maximum age 70, Minimum age 50.

↳ ensure only experienced officials inducted to fast track pendency ↳ ↑ in maximum age ensures more productive years ↳ 4 yr office - no conflict of interest	↳ Bar on minimum age hampers security / length of tenure ↳ Innovative young approach unavailable ↳ No bar on practice after retirement

The bill might be well intentioned but must be properly debated upon and in consonance with Supreme Court recommendations in Madras Bar Association Case (2021)

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11. Asymmetry is not only an important characteristic of federalism in India, it has also helped in the accommodation of diverse demands inherent in our democracy. Discuss. **(250 words) 15**

असममिति न केवल भारत में संघवाद की एक महत्वपूर्ण विशेषता है, अपितु इसने हमारे लोकतंत्र में निहित विविध मांगों के समायोजन में भी सहायता प्रदान की है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Indian federalism is characterised by differential roles and responsibilities, political, administrative and financial powers of constituent states. This phenomena is termed as asymmetric Federalism.

Asymmetry in Indian federalism avoids the 'One size fits all' Approach by the Union and gives flexibility and autonomy to the states to cater to their varied requirements

Differential provisions are enumerated both in the spirit and law of India due to following IMPORTANT CHARACTERISTICS

(1) Accomodate differences on account of GEOGRAPHY, ETHINICITY, culture, TERRAIN; Neighbouring Areas, Historical Context.

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② Ensures sense of belongingness and assimilation.

③ Secures rights to the citizens and ensure social justice

④ Potrays Unity in Diversity and equity in resource allocation.

⑤ Keeps divisive tendencies and internal security threats at bay

Unlike the United States of America, which is a coming together federation, India is a holding on federation which seeks to accomodate diverse demands in our democracy.

This has been ensured by :-

① FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK

- Special Category states -
- Unequal financial burden for centrally sponsored states
- Grants in aids by the finance commission for backward states.

This has been done to ensure equity in development and remedy the economic and infrastructural backwardness and

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support non viable nature of state finances

② POLITICAL FRAMEWORK

- Division of political power between states and union territories (UT's)
- UT's with & without Legislature
  (Eg :- Delhi (due to its status of being capital)
  Puducherry (due to non contagious areas)
- Unequal Representation in Rajya Sabha

This has been done to accomodate demands arising due to varied population, resource base, territorial size and level of development.

③ ADMINISTRATIVE FRAMEWORK

- Article 370 - for Jammu Kashmir
- Article 371 - for Northeastern states giving governor greater powers to preserve culture ethnicity and Tribal rituals & traditions
- Sixth Schedule areas to preserve autonomy.

This has been done to factor in hilly & difficult terrain, low population density and strategic location around borders

Thus, Asymmetric federalism ensures that India caters to varied demands of democracy like a 'Thali' rather than "melting pot," that belongs together but not necessarily mix.

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12. Identifying the designated role of Parliament, discuss the consequences of inefficiency in parliamentary functioning in India. Also, suggest some measures for improving the functioning of Parliament. **(250 words) 15**

संसद की निर्दिष्ट भूमिका की पहचान करते हुए, भारत में संसद के कामकाज में अक्षमता के परिणामों पर चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, संसद के कामकाज में सुधार के लिए कुछ उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

India follows a westminster form of government which means that the executive is directly responsible to the parliament / the elected representatives of the people.

The Role of Parliament as designated by the constitution, entails:-

① Ensuring the accountability of the executives with help of
- ① Parliamentary Committees
- ① Motions, Question hour
- ① Vote on grants.

② Deliberative law making
- ① including meaningful debates which give guidance to executive & judiciary on how to implement & enforce laws.

③ Keeping tyranny of political parties in check through
- ① Whip
- ① Anti Defection Law

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(4) Effective opposition to unsound & hasty legislation

(5) Ammend the constitution according to changing needs of democracy

However, decrease in number of sittings, lack of referral of bills to committees and controversial role of speaker on money bill & antidefection law has led to creeping of inefficiencies in parliamentary governance. Consequences of same are :-

(1) Sensationalisation of parliamentary proceeding + neglect of meaningful debates

(2) Obstructionist strategies & indiscipline

(3) Criminalisation of politics

(4) Hasty and Populist decision making by majority party.

(5) Politicisation of the office of speaker

(6) Poorly drafted legislation

(7) Increase in subordinate legislation

(8) Authoritarian tendencies of executive, Breach of Parliamentary Privileges.

Thus, the inefficiencies would lead to parliament loosing its institutional credibility.

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The following steps can be taken to improve functioning of parliament

1) Ensure attendance by rooster system & mandating minimum setting

2) Women Representation and chance to new entrants & back benchers

3) Reforms in antidefection law, office of speaker and whips

4) Pre and Post legislative impact assesment

5) Special Tribunals & disclosure of criminal antecedants for members / candidates

6) Enforcing a code of conduct for MP's.

7) Mandatory vetting of bills by committees & requirement of Action Taken Report on Recommendations.

Therefore, the need of the hour is to cut down parliamentary disruption and also encourage fresh candidates by conducting Youth parliaments

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13. Despite awarding constitutional status to the National Commission for Backward Classes, there still remain issues with regard to inclusion/exclusion of communities in the OBC list. Discuss. **(250 words) 15**

राष्ट्रीय पिछड़ा वर्ग आयोग को संवैधानिक दर्जा देने के बावजूद, ओ.बी.सी. सूची में समुदायों के समावेशन/बहिष्करण के संबंध में अभी भी विभिन्न मुद्दे विद्यमान हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

The National Commission for Backward Classes was a statutory body created the National commission for Backward Classes Act, 1993 functioning under the Ministry of social justice and empowerment.

It was accorded the constitutional status through 102nd constitutional ammendment Act in 2018, when Article 338B and 342A were added.

Article 338B provides the authority to the NCBC to :-

1) Examine complaints & welfare measures with respect to socially & educationally backward classes (SEBC)
2) Advise on welfare matters related to SEBC
3) supervise policy implementation
4) Present a report to President (annually or otherwise) on working of safeguards for SEBC

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5) In pursuance of the above, the NCBC acts as a civil court.

However, there remain issues with respect to inclusion/exclusion of castes in the OBC list on account of the following.

1) Lack of updated Data on OBC's →
The NCBC doesnot have the powers to collect nationwide data and the census carried on each decade contains data only for SC & ST. The Socio-economic caste census was carried out but data hasnt been made public. The recent proposal to introduce Caste Census has also been facing backlash.

2) Huge no. of backward castes with similar names - Makes exercise even more tedious & complex

3) Article 342A gives the power to the President to decide backward classes for each states with consultation of state governors, but only parliament can ammend the list with a Law, therefore NCBC doesnot have power to include/exclude

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castes from the list

4) Recommendations of NCBC are not bending on the government and accountability cannot be ensured through Action Taken Reports (ATR)

5) Financial Deficit, Manpower shortages, Lack of Technical expertise and non inclusion of provisions for timely review of list (As mandated by the supreme court) also adds to the woes of NCBC.

Therefore, simply providing a constitutional status to the National Commission for Backward classes wont be fruitful unless concurrent changes are made for revamping its powers and increased say in safeguards of backward classes.

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14. A critical appraisal of the outcomes of the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act underlines the need for second generation reforms to strengthen decentralisation of Urban Local Governance in India. Discuss.

(250 words) 15

74वें संविधान संशोधन अधिनियम के परिणामों का आलोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन भारत में शहरी स्थानीय शासन के विकेंद्रीकरण को सुदृढ़ करने हेतु दूसरी पीढ़ी के सुधारों की आवश्यकता को रेखांकित करता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

74th ammendment Act, 1993 sought to provide democratic decentralisation to the administrative and political framework of India.

However, after a critical appraisal the following issues have been reported in the working of the Urban local bodies :-

1) Scarcity of Finance - According to the Municipal Performance Index (2021) released by Ministry of Housing & Urban affairs only 20 out of 111 cities have the power to borrow and invest funds without state approval. This makes them increasingly dependent on state and central grants, whose funds have been scarce due to the pandemic & economic slowdown

2) Lack of autonomy - Excessive state regulation & requirement of approval hampers day to day functioning of Urban Local Bodies.

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3) Multiple authorities (like state Public works) for similar sectors - Duplication of effort, Lack of coordination, poor accountability & implementation of policies

4) Lack of regular elections.

Thus this leads to poor urban local governance which calls for the following reforms.

1) Financing - Municipal bodies should be encouraged to borrow without government approvals / gaurentees
- increased delegation of taxation power
- floating of municipal bonds
- coverage under priority sector scheme.

2) Capacity building through training of elected municipal councillors / mayors

3) Effective coordination with elected and permanent bureaucracy with dilenation of powers.

4) Taxation reforms - to increase voluntary compliance by simplification :-
- Reform of land ceiling, Rent control & stamp duty act, property tax collected through GIS mapping

5) Transparent Municipal Accounting for better financial management

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6) Governance Reforms including conduct of regular elections before expiry of term of current ULB.

7) Integration of technology for egovernance which will make administration quick, transparent & participative.

8) Collaboration with private sector through Public private partnerships to bridge financial & technical expertise gap.

Therefore, all though the 74th constitutional ammendment worked as the first generation of reforms to recognise urban local governments constitutionally, there is a dire need for Reform 2.0 to provide greater functionality to Urban Local Bodies.

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15. Checks and balances as well as separation of powers are not mere intellectual ideas, but principles which strengthen a democracy in real ways. Discuss in the context of India. **(250 words) 15**

नियंत्रण और संतुलन के साथ-साथ शक्तियों का पृथक्करण न केवल बौद्धिक विचार हैं, अपितु ये ऐसे सिद्धांत हैं जो वास्तव में लोकतंत्र को मजबूत बनाते हैं। भारत के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

constitutional experts, intellectuals and academicians have defined the two complimentary pillars of 'checks & Balances' and 'separation of powers' on which the judicial, political & administrative framework of the country rests upon.

checks and balances refers to the concrete idea of supervision of functions of each authority by other constituents to make sure that there is no
↳ overstepping of jurisdiction
↳ concentration of power
↳ Misuse/Abuse of authority.

separation of powers refers to clear cut division of powers between judiciary executive and legislature with dilenated functions assigned to each

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In the first glance, they might look like contradictory ideals with one advocating scrutiny & other non intervenence, yet the constitution has maintained a delicate yet substanciative balance in the Indian context.

SEPERATION OF POWER	CHECK and BALANCES
① Executive - Legislature	
Executive - Policy Implementation Legislature - law making Ministers based from becoming members of parliamentary committes	executive selected from parliament Article 75 - No confidence motion Impeachment of President Ordinance promulgation Delegated legislation President assent to bill
② Executive - Judiciary	
Article 50 - separation of executive & judiciary Article 154 + 53 - Immunity from civil & criminal liability Article 361 - President / Governor not answerable to court for exercise of duties.	Appointment, Transfer of judges through collegium with executive participation Tribunals & quasi judicial bodies President / Governor power to grant pardon A142 - Complete justice

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③ Legislature - Executive

A122+212 validity of legislative proceedings cannot be called in question in court A121+129 - Judicial conduct of judges not discussed in legislature	- Impeachment of judges - Judicial Review (i.e striking down NJAC) - Courts punish in case of Breach of preveledge - Basic structure of constitution unammendable

The principles have ensured
↳ Accountability of each organ
↳ Credibility of each institution
↳ Rule of law
↳ curbed Arbitrariness / Power accumulation
↳ Cooperation b/w different organs
↳ Conflict management
↳ smooth functioning by checking hinderances.

Therefore, both principles have eliminated miscreant use of power and brought in greater power sharing in the fusion model of Indian democracy which is contrary to rigid separation practiced in USA.

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16. In the Lok Sabha and the Vidhan Sabhas, the Speaker has vast powers and extensive functions. Elaborating on it, highlight the grounds on which the Office of the Speaker has been criticised and the reforms required in this regard. **(250 words) 15**

लोक सभा और विधान सभाओं में, अध्यक्ष के पास विशाल शक्तियां और व्यापक कार्य होते हैं। इसे सविस्तार वर्णित करते हुए, उन आधारों को रेखांकित कीजिए जिन पर अध्यक्ष के पद की आलोचना की जाती है और इस संबंध में आवश्यक सुधारों पर प्रकाश डालिए।

While the members of parliament (MP's) and members of legislative assemblies (MLA's) represent the people of the constituency the speaker represents the house of people as a whole.

The constitution has prescribed an elaborate role for the speaker of the legislature both at state and central level. This includes :-

1) Ensure Decorum & orderly conduct of house
2) Guardian & conscience of the house
3) Final interpreter of constitutional provisions for house, rules of procedure & conduct of business, parliamentary precedents.
4) Presideng over joint sitting of houses
5) Sole discretion to c[illegible]n permit adjournment motion
6) Decide issues to be taken up & presides

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over the house

7) Decides whether a bill is money bill/ not

8) Powers to disqualify under Tenth Schedule

9) Responsible for constitution of committees & chairing/nomenating chairpersons.

Grounds of Criticism

1) Favours ruling party = MAJORITARIANISM

- Partisan conduct in disqualifying / taking no action on account of Anti Defection Law.
- Introduction of ordinary bill as money bill to subvert discussion

2) Favouring party interest over national interest

- Voice vote even in unambiguous calls
- Continuing party membership

3) Not referring bills to parliamentary committees

4) Outright rejection of private member bill.

Thus the above criticism arise due to continuation of political affiliation with political party & increasing politicisation of role of speaker.

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Reforms required in Speaker post

1. The Supreme Court in Kihoto Hollan & Mega-Chandran case rejected upon the possibility of judicial review in case of Anti defection verdict given by Speaker and recommended setting up of an independent tribunal for the same

2. Impartiality of speaker ensured through severing all political ties & mandating resignation from majority party

3. Follow best practices of UK, where "Once a speaker always a speaker.". Speaker remains in office till retirement even when party in power changes.

4. Induction of e-voting in parliament over voice voting.

Thus, Jawaharlal Nehru claimed that speaker was a symbol of liberty & freedom of the country & hence constitutional revamp is needed in its role to ensure the impartiality & non partisanship of the post.

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17. In India, the Finance Commissions are established pursuant to the constitutional mandate. In this context, do you think the State Finance Commissions have been effective in promoting fiscal federalism? Substantiate with arguments. (250 words) 15

भारत में वित्त आयोगों की स्थापना संवैधानिक अधिदेश के अनुसार की जाती है। इस संदर्भ में, क्या आपको लगता है कि राज्य वित्त आयोग राजकोषीय संघवाद को बढ़ावा देने में प्रभावी रहे हैं? तर्कों के साथ पुष्टि कीजिए।

Article 280 of the constitution mandates setting up of the finance commission every 5 years to recommend transfer of financial resources from centre to States including the principles on which grant in aids will be given to states.

This is on central level.

On State level, The state finance commission is created through 73rd and 74th constitutional ammendment to rationalise and systematise state/sub-state level fiscal relations in India

Although the state Finance commission have been given a constitutional mandate, yet the following issues have crept up:-

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↳ State governments have not been setting up their State Finance commissions regularly

⇓

↳ Even when they are set up, SFC's are not able to submit their reports on time

⇓

↳ This is on account of 4 reasons

- Lack of proficiency and availability of technical expertise
- Humongous work of compiling data from multiple local bodies
- Lack of on feild workers with practical experience.
- Lack of Reliable Data

⇓

↳ Even when the reports are submitted to state governments, suitable actions are not taken by the governments and it is difficult to fix responsibility

↳ Allocation of resources for administrative staff; research and analysis programmes also becomes a barrier in the same.

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Yet all hope is not lost.

According to Municipal Performance Index 2021, 95% of states use less than 5% of their revenue generation potential, this can be expanded to provide increased funding for SFC's.

Other Initiatives for Improved fiscal federalism

- Financial Mgmt Module Training to SFC officers
- Delhi government has encouraged youth to participate in YLP (youth leadership & Internship programme) in various municipal bodies
- Action taken reports on SFC recommendations has also been mandated. (ATR)
- Technology integration, with real time data collection & entry into standard performa is encouraged for quicker SFC reports.

It has been observed that although both have been given constitutional recognition SFC's are seen on a lower pedestal than union finance commission. Thus, this attitudinal barrier has to be removed to ensure greater cooperation for greater fiscal federalism

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18. It is argued that unchecked and rampant exercise of the power to insert laws in the Ninth Schedule results in undermining of constitutional supremacy and creation of parliamentary hegemony. Do you agree? Justify your stand with logical arguments. **(250 words) 15**

यह तर्क दिया जाता है कि नौवीं अनुसूची में विधियों को सम्मिलित करने की शक्ति के अनियंत्रित और व्यापक स्तर पर प्रयोग से संवैधानिक सर्वोच्चता में कमी और संसदीय आधिपत्य का सृजन होता है। क्या आप सहमत हैं? उचित तर्कों के साथ अपने मत की पुष्टि कीजिए।

Ninth schedule was added to the constitution by the First Constitutional Ammendment Act, 1951.

It currently contains about 248 laws (both central & state) which cannot be challenged in courts.

It was initially brought by the government to protect laws related to agrarian reforms and for abolishing the Zamindari system.

Although there has been an unchecked & rampant exercise of inserting laws in the 9th schedule to avoid Judicial Review, the Supreme court in Waman Rao v/s Union of India case, stated that Judicial Review is a part of basic structure Doctrine as given by the Kesavananda Bharti case, and hence ammendments & inclusions to 9th schedule are valid upto Kesavananda Bharti case, any further inclusions are

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subject to Judicial Review

Recently there have been demands to include reservation laws in 9th schedule. On the other hand farmer organisation have demanded deletion of 9th schedule.

Irrespective of the 2 sides, Insertion of laws in 9th schedule doesnot result in parliamentary hegemony because :-

1)

Basic structure well laid out Principle (Kesavananda Bharti case)

Laws contrary to Part III of Constitution incorporated in 9th schedule post 1973 can be challenged on basis of :- (laid out in I.R Coehelo case)

Judicial Review part of Basic structure (laid out in Minerva Mills case)

Therefore as enumerated by the apex court in its judgement, any law placed under the 9th schedule after April 23, 1973 are subject to scrutiny of the court if they are violative of fundamental rights and thus put a check on misuse of provision of 9th schedule by legislative.

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To summarise,

> Protection to fundamental Rights ensured
> Safeguards against parliamentary whim & fancies
> Essence of Judicial Review undisturbed
> Supreme court working as guardian of Constitutional morality, ensuring its supremacy.
> Accountability to people maintained.

Therefore the veil of 9th schedule can very well be pierced by the Judicial review to check if laws are well within the four corners of fundamental rights guaranteed by constitution

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19. Though the antecedents of the Indian Constitution can be traced to a series of British colonial legislation and other constitutions of the world, in spirit and practice it has been completely Indian. Discuss. **(250 words) 15**

यद्यपि भारतीय संविधान की पृष्ठभूमि ब्रिटिश औपनिवेशिक कानूनों की श्रृंखलाओं और विश्व के अन्य संविधानों में देखी जा सकती है, तथापि सिद्धांत और व्यवहार में यह पूर्णतः भारतीय है। चर्चा कीजिए।

The Indian Constitution is a well thought out comprehensively drafted holistic document that has stood the test of time and proven to be a bulwark for India's Democracy.

The Indian constitution has been inspired from many legislations and constitutions around the world.

Idea	Inspiration
Liberty Equality Fraternity	French Revolution
Fundamental Rights Judicial Review	USA Constitution's Bill of Rights
Federation with strong centre & Residuary powers with union	Canada Constitution
Parliamentary government & Bicameralism	British Parliament and Legislations
Federal scheme, Office of Governor, Public Service Commission	Government of India Act, 1935.

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Although critics have called it a patchwork and bag of borrowings, yet Indian constitution has been an innovative and unique document that has modified the well accepted ideals in order to

↳ remove fundamental flaws
↳ accomodate needs of the country

Its spirit and practice consists of the following provisions:-

① Unique Federalism ⇒ Unitary in spirit
This has been done to ensure feeling of cooperation among states (Article 1, 3,)

② secularism of Equal Protection of All religion contrary to western model of non interferance (Preamble, Article 25, 26)

③ Reservations & Positive Affirmation for women, marginalised to provide equal voice (Article 15 & 16)

④ Abolition of Untouchability (Peculiar to Indian society) (Article 17)

⑤ Preventive Detention laws to counter security threats (Article 22)

⑥ Emergency Provisions to secure national integrity & ward off divisive forces peculiar in Indian context. (Article 356, Article 365)

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(7) Greater Democratic Decentralisation on Ideals of Gandhiji (73rd & 74th ammendment) (Panchayats)

(8) Gandhian Directive Principles of states policy (Cow Protection laws) Article 40, 48)

(9) Schedule 5th & 6th - Safeguards for Tribes and aborginals.

Thus India follows a best of all worlds fusion model, this can be observed through both rigidity (USA) and flexibility (UK) in ammending constitution, both parliamentary sovereignity (UK) and judicial supremacy (US), both Due process of law (USA) and procedure established by law (UK).

Hence, constitution is unique and completely indian in practice wherein it has evolved in accordance with changing needs of society & yet has maintained its basic structure

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20. Providing greater flexibility to states in relation to subjects in the state list and 'transferred items' in the concurrent list can pave the way for better Centre-State relations in India. Examine. **(250 words) 15**

राज्य सूची के विषयों और समवर्ती सूची में 'हस्तांतरित विषयों' के संबंध में राज्यों को अधिक लचीलापन प्रदान करना भारत में बेहतर केंद्र-राज्य संबंधों का मार्ग प्रशस्त कर सकता है। परीक्षण कीजिए।

The subject wise distribution of legislative powers is given in 3 lists of Seventh Schedule of the constitution.

There exists a FEDERAL SUPERMACY with respect to legislative powers :-

1) Only centre can make laws on subjects in Union list.
2) Although both state & centre can make laws for concurrent list - Central law prevail
3) On a Rajya Sabha resolution centre can also make laws on state subjects
4) Residuary subjects are with centre
5) 42nd ammendment Act 1976 transferred subjects like forest, education, protection of wildlife to concurrent list
6) Over the years subjects in state list has decreased & central & concurrent list has increased.

In this scenario, providing greater flexibility to states in relation to subjects in state & Transferred list can :-

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- Help states customise laws and schemes according to own requirement (With wide discrepancy in educational levels of Bihar and Kerala a one size fit all Education Policy (concurrent list) would be counterproductive)

- Gives relief from one size fits all approach (Forest cover difference between Haryana & North eastern states varies and hence the conservation efforts)

- Prevent centre encroaching on state subjects ensure federal stability & coordination between central & state ministries (Eg:- centre enacting laws on Agricultural marketing which is a state subject)

- Pandemic has highlighted need for real time & quick response which is only possible with state intervention (Eg:- Union imposing a Nationwide lockdown during 1st wave which harmed less prone states economically) & Health → state subject

- Legislative Flexibility ⇒ Each state grow according to own strengths ⇒ Cooperative Federalism ⇓ Centre act as facilitator ⇒ Improved Centre state Relations ⇑ Legislative Flexibility

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Thus states need to be provided with autonomy, agency and liberty to act in own favour, hence apart from subjects like those needed for sake of national integrity, security or uniformity, effective power allocation would result in bridging of vertical imbalances & improve centre state relations

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Center	DELHI	Date	9/3/2022

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Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
4	10	
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11	15	
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18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न–पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI**
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न–सह–उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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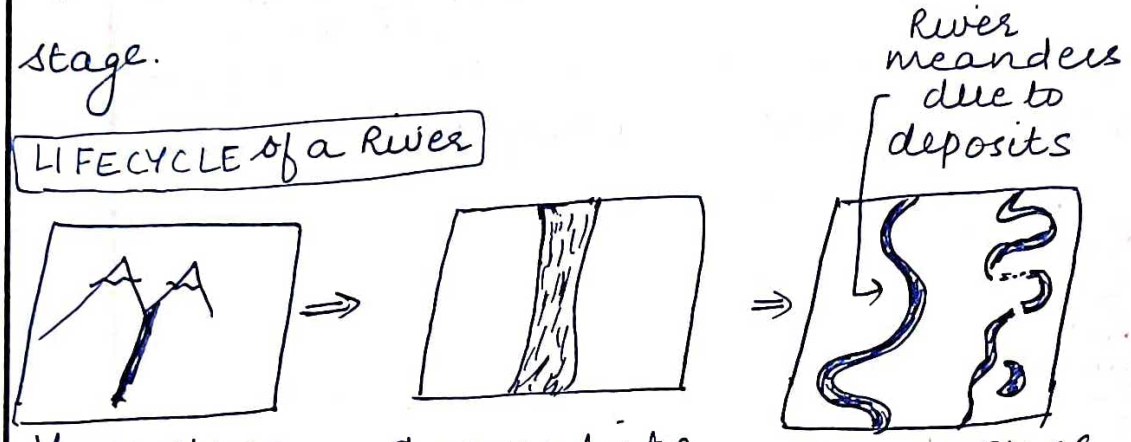
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

1. Explaining the concept of meandering, identify the various landforms associated with flood plains. **(150 words) 10**

विसर्प की अवधारणा की व्याख्या करते हुए, बाढ़ के मैदानों से जुड़ी विभिन्न भू-आकृतियों को वर्णित कीजिए।

Meandering refers to the curving / looping of the river when it reaches its mature stage.

LIFECYCLE of a River



Youth stage	Intermediate	Mature Stage
Linear flow	slight bitt	curves & loops
High speed	More wide	slower speed
High Depth	than deep	shallow

It is observed that the river meanders when the depositional action of the flowing water is stronger than its erosional force.

Landforms associated with floodplains are called FLUVIAL LANDFORMS and include

① EROSIONAL LANDFORMS

This happens when the river erodes the path on which it flows. Higher speed

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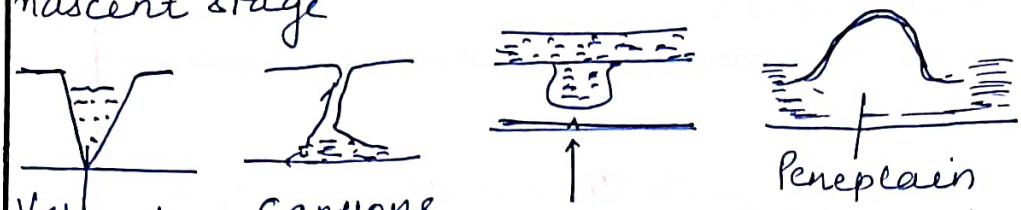
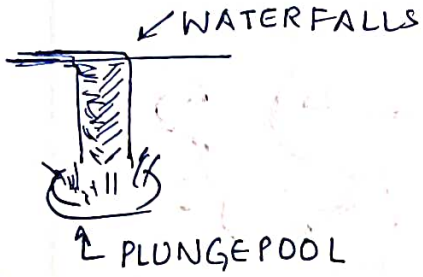
means deeper erosion and is common in nascent stage

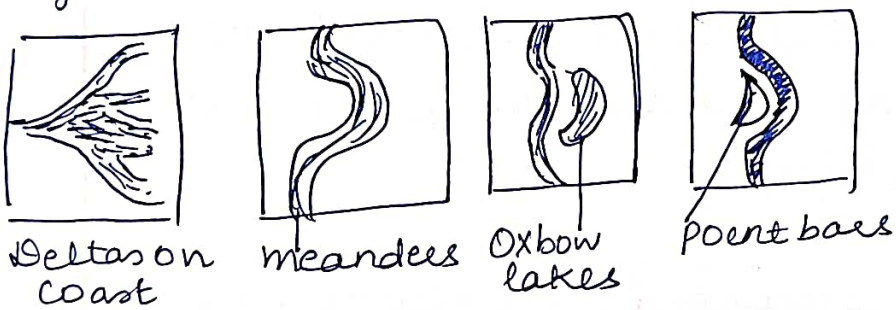


It also creates waterfalls and plungepools when the river falls from a hieght.



② DEPOSITIONAL LANDFORMS

The depositional landforms are promenent when the river deposits the silt, rocks, debris brought with it and is found in mature stage



Erosional landforms are biodiversity hotspots and tourist attractions whereas depositional landform provide fertile soil for agricultural activities

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2. What is a cloudburst and what are its effects? Why are they more frequent in the Himalayan region? **(150 words) 10**

बादल फटना क्या है और इसके क्या प्रभाव हैं? हिमालयी क्षेत्र में इनकी आवृत्ति अधिक क्यों है?

Cloudburst are occurences of high amount of rainfall over a small region and over a short period of time.

They are formed due to vertical updraft and high amount of relative humidity.

There have been instances of cloudbursts in the states of Uttrakhand, Himachal Pradesh. It has had devastating effects of

1. Destruction of life and Property
2. causes Flash Floods
3. uprooting of trees
4. soil erosion
5. Landslide and landslips
6. Habitat Destruction and Biodiversity loss
7. Downstream deposition of silt & sediments which may choke river beds and cause land elevation
8. Tourism Loss and impacts the economy

They are more frequent in the Himalayan Region because :-

1. Himalayas act as a barrier for the rain bearing clouds. This makes the clouds shed their moisture through

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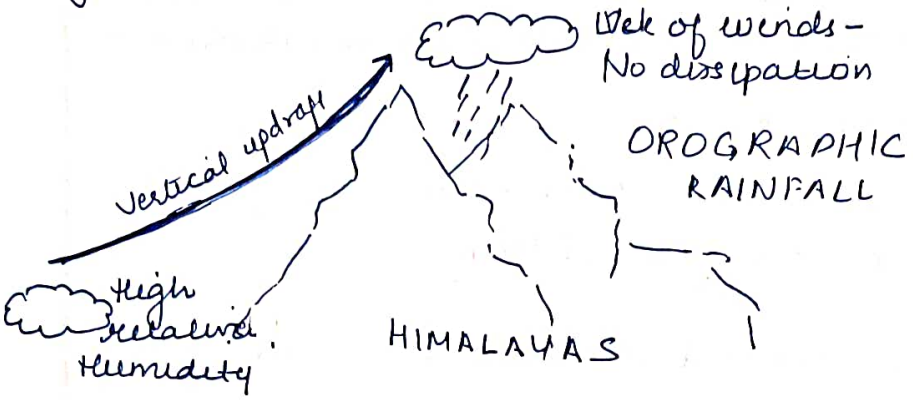
Orographic rainfall.



(2) Stable wind conditions in upper atmosphere doesnt let the clouds dissipate

(3) High relative humidity in the floodplains augment cloud formation.

(4) Low temperatures in himalayan region leds to rapid condensation and heavy dompour.

The vulnerability of the Himalayan region has increased due to climate change which has led to warming, thereby changing patterns of evaporation, wind speeds and condensation.

Therefore, there is a need of early warning system and mitigation of destruction caused by cloudburst to maintain climatological balance.

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3. Volcanic eruptions are widely considered to be agents of destruction but they also have certain positive impacts on the people and landscape. Discuss. (150 words) 10

ज्वालामुखी विस्फोटों को व्यापक रूप से विनाश का कारक माना जाता है, लेकिन उनका लोगों और भूदृश्य पर कुछ सकारात्मक प्रभाव भी पड़ता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Volcanic eruptions are natural disaster in which molten magma, ash, dust, debris and aerosols are spewed by volcanoes.

Volcanoes are considered agents of destruction because:-

1) Lava flows lead to death and destruction for biodiversity and human life
2) It causes damage to property and national monuments
3) The ash dust and aerosols spewed causes air pollution and inhabitable conditions

However they also have certain positive impacts.

① For people

↳ Volcanoes often become tourist destinations These natural marvels attract people from all around world, thereby providing economic activities to inhabitants in vicinity. Eg:- Mount Etna, Stromboli are tourists sites in Italy.

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② These eruptions leave fertile sediments which makes the land enriched with nutrients for agricultural activities

③ The shaking of ground accompanied by the eruptions rejuvenates the fertility of land by altering the top soil.

④ For landscapes

① Aerosols released by volcanic eruptions cause cooling of atmosphere

② Magma eruption is a rich source of rare minerals like zinc, gold, copper, nickle and even diamonds.

③ Magma also becomes the potential source of geothermal energy which can be harnessed for production of energy.

Therefore,
There is a need for channelising the positive impacts and mitigating the negative impacts of the volcanos

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(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

4. How does the interaction between oceans and the atmosphere stabilize and regulate the climatic variations over the earth? **(150 words) 10**
महासागरों और वायुमंडल के बीच परस्पर क्रिया किस प्रकार पृथ्वी पर जलवायुविक भिन्नताओं को स्थिर और नियंत्रित करती है?

The threat of climate change alters the interaction between oceans and atmosphere and creates unprecedented events which alter climatic pattern over earth.

The fine balance of interactions, oceans & atmosphere stabilise and regulates the climate variations in following ways:-

- Wind patterns impacts the wave frequency & intensity
- Land Breeze & Sea Breeze - Regulates temperature in coastal areas.
- Impacts Monsoon Patterns
- Convectional Rainfall gives relief from high temperature & humidity
- Ocean currents - stabilise the Ocean temperature by taking warm water from equator to poles & vice versa
- Impact El Nino, ENSO and AMOC - Atlantic Meridional overturning circulation.

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↳ Oceans also help in absorbing carbon dioxide and help to reduce global average temperature caused by GHGs.

However this precarious balance is being disturbed by excessive atmosphere warming which is leading to ocean warming, glacial melting, sea level rise, and increasing cyclones.

Hence steps for mitigating climate variability must take a holistic view on ocean-atmosphere interaction.

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5. Despite its potential, there are several challenges in the implementation of the Ken-Betwa Link Project. Discuss. **(150 words) 10**
केन-बेतवा लिंक परियोजना की क्षमता के बावजूद, इसके कार्यान्वयन में अनेक चुनौतियां विद्यमान हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

The Union Budget 2022 provided for the implementation of Ken Betwa interlinking project at the estimated cost of 45000 crore.

The project has been haralded as the initiation of series of projects for river interlinking which has the following potential:-

1. Help region overcome paradoxes of floods & Droughts
2. Provide irrigation for 9 lakh hectares of farmland
3. Provide drinking water supply to 62 lakh people
4. Provide 103 MW of hydropower and 27 MW of solar power.
5. Pave way for more interlinking projects

However, there have been several challenges in the implementation of the Ken-Betwa Link project:-

1. Environment concerns

↳ Submergence of Panna Tiger Reserve :- The project will endanger habitat and prey base (chital & sambhar) for the tigers

↳ Habitat Fragmentation of Gharials in Ken river

↳ Affect the habitat of vulture and jackals

↳ This will also have to be complement with cutting down of 23 lakh trees which would

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impact the entire forest ecosystem.
↳ The matter has not been given clearance by supreme court after a central empowered Committee submitted its report on same

② Interstate Water Dispute – The project will endanger the cooperative federalism because the governments of Uttar Pradesh Madhya Pradesh havent been able to reach to a water sharing agreement in non monsoonal months.

③ The project has been questioned on the improper and inadequate environmental clearance and inaccurate estimates regarding land to be irrigated which could be done with help of expansion of already existing project

Therefore, these challenges need to be resolved so that the project can balance socio-economic needs of people and environmental conservation.

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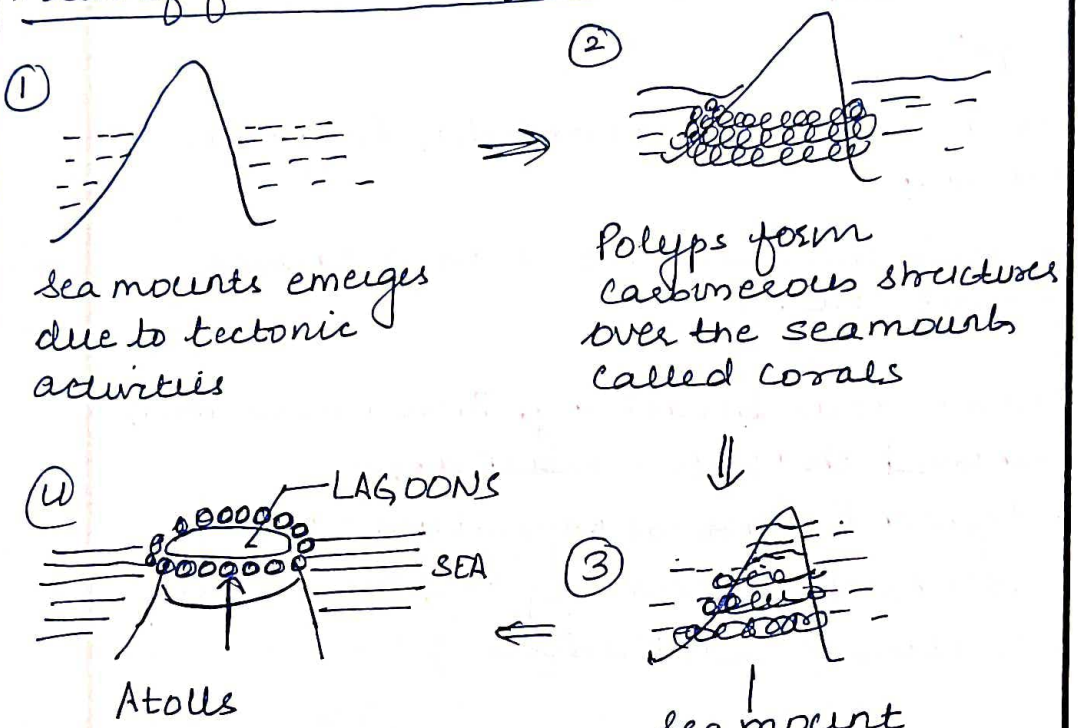
6. How are atolls formed? Discuss the threats faced by them due to anthropogenic factors. **(150 words) 10**

एटॉल कैसे निर्मित होते हैं? मानवजनित कारकों के कारण उनके समक्ष विद्यमान खतरों की विवेचना कीजिए।

Atolls are a variant of coral reef that are formed as a natural boundary between a lagoon and sea.

Process of formation of atolls.



1. Sea mounts emerges due to tectonic activities
2. Polyps form carbonaceous structures over the seamounts called corals
3. Sea mount eventually gets eroded due to wave & tide action
4. The sea mount becomes a sink hole and is later filled with sea water (called lagoons)

Atolls

Lakshadweep islands in India is an example of atolls.

However, atolls are facing destruction due to anthropogenic factors which include:-

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1. Destruction due to coastal development, dredging, mining, quarring, shoreline expansion
2. Pollution due to chemicals that find their way into water (Eg:- Sunscreens which harm corals)
3. Excessive use of fertilisers and pesticides causing ocean acidification
4. Overfishing
5. Intensive tourism and Rapid and unsustainable Urbanisation
6. Oil spills
7. Rise in sea temperature due to global warming
8. Human induced climate change causes sea level rise.

This causes coral bleaching. These threats must be countered through sustainable management (coastal Regulation zones) Use of Technology (Biorock) and community Conservation (coral Nurseries)

Thus, Atolls are tropical rainforest of the sea and must be suitably conserved.

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7. Foaming in the beginning of winters in River Yamuna in and around Delhi has been in news. Identify the reasons behind this and discuss its larger impact. **(150 words) 10**

दिल्ली और उसके आसपास यमुना नदी में शीत ऋतु के प्रारंभ में उत्पन्न झाग सुर्खियों में रहा है। इसके पीछे के कारणों की पहचान करते हुए इसके व्यापक प्रभाव पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Foaming in a river occurs on the decomposition of organic and inorganic matter and constant churning of river water.

Although, foaming is natural phenomena, yet the huge foam mountains floating on river yamuna in Delhi has become a huge menance and cause of concern.

Reasons for foam:-

1) Formed due to dumping of industrial wastes in River Yamuna containing sulphates & fructates

2) Dumping of agricultural, domestic & animal wastes

3) Festivities like Chath Puja

4) Winter also witnesses a reduced water flow this impact the self cleansing properties of yamuna

5) Lack of winds in winter lead to accumulation of foam without dissepation

6) Increasing number of slums near yamuna further aggravates the problem

Larger impact of the river

1) Foul smell and purity of river compromised

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2) Health hazards for inhabitants in vicinity
3) Destruction of floral and faunal diversity in the river.
4) Habitat fragmentation and increased toxicity.
5) Disrepute for pollution controlling & river conservation authority.
6) Infringement of rights of rivers which are declared as living people.

Thus,
Construction of sewage treatment plants, stricter regulations & penalties for polluting industries and community based conservation plan can go a long way in ridding the river of treacherous foam.

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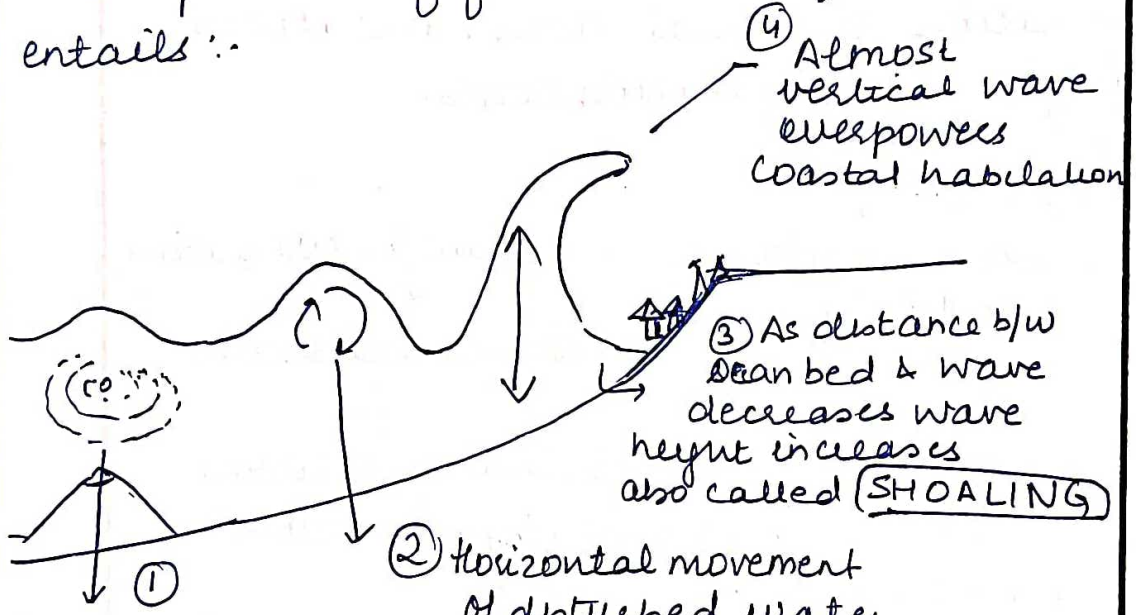
8. Explain the process of formation of a tsunami. Also, mention the tsunami preparedness and mitigation efforts taken by the government.
(150 words) 10

सुनामी उत्पन्न होने की प्रक्रिया की व्याख्या कीजिए। साथ ही, सुनामी के विरुद्ध सरकार की तैयारियों और इसके द्वारा किए गए शमन प्रयासों का भी उल्लेख कीजिए।

Tsunami's are a series of long waves caused due to sudden and large displacement of ocean water due to volcanic eruption or earthquakes.

The process of formation of Tsunami entails :-



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After the Devastation caused by the Tsunami in 2004, the government has undertaken the following measures

① Preparedness

① Tsunami Early warning systems:- Technologies like Sonar, and seismic sensors, communication channels are used so that people can be evacuated in time.

② The Indian Tsunami earlywarning system was established by INCOIS in 2007

③ Construction of embankments, seawalls etc

④ Regulation of coastal area habitations through Coastal Regulation zones.

② Mitigation

① Dispatching quick response team for evacuation, rescue and relief

② Construction of adequate designated shelter areas.

③ Use of technology for post disaster recovery

④ Capacity buildings building back better infrastructure.

Thus a community based Tsunami mitigation & preparedness plan can secure live & livelihoods of coastal communities.

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9. Discuss the role of geospatial technologies in developing effective approaches for disaster risk reduction and disaster management.
(150 words) 10

आपदा जोखिम न्यूनीकरण और आपदा प्रबंधन के लिए प्रभावी दृष्टिकोण विकसित करने में भू-स्थानिक प्रौद्योगिकियों की भूमिका की विवेचना कीजिए।

Geospatial technologies provide location based services which can help in surveillance, monitoring, navigating.

Introduction of these technologies in disaster management can be fruitful in overcoming human limitations and expand reach of rescue operations.

ROLE OF GEOSPATIAL TECHNOLOGIES IN DISASTER RISK REDUCTION :-

① Use in Early Warning systems :-
GPS; GIS services provide tools for incident mapping and Hazard Zoning including communication of impending disasters

② Reporting violations of regulations :- These services help to reduce vulnerability by ensuring adherence to regulations regarding Coastal Zones (Tsumani & cyclones) Overcrowding (Landslides etc)

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ROLE OF GEOSPATIAL TECHNOLOGY IN DISASTER MANAGEMENT:-

1. Augment Search and Rescue Operation (Eg:- Use of Drones in flood hit areas)
2. Deployment of Relief forces and Optimising response efforts
3. Provision of food & medical supplies at unreachable areas
4. Use for land use planning in reconstruction and post recovery phase
5. Map Based alerts to inhabitants
6. Tagging construction of post disaster infrastructure

Therefore, geospatial technologies can complement human efforts and strengthen community preparedness against a disaster.

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10. Discuss the key challenges in implementation of school safety measures in India. How does the National Policy on Disaster Management (NPDM), 2009, seek to address these challenges? **(150 words) 10**

भारत में स्कूल सुरक्षा संबंधी उपायों के कार्यान्वयन में विद्यमान प्रमुख चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए। राष्ट्रीय आपदा प्रबंधन नीति (NPDM), 2009 द्वारा इन चुनौतियों का समाधान कैसे किया गया है?

Ensuring school safety during a disaster becomes indespensible due to increased vulnerability of children.

However, there are some challenges in implementation of school safety measures :-

1. Attitudinal inertia to prepare for unknown occurences
2. Lack of relevant curriculum creating awareness about disaster management
3. Lack of training of teachers and non teaching staff
4. Absence of resilient infrastructure
5. Insufficiency of funds to install disaster tackling equipments like fire-, extinguishers,
6. Spatial Design of schools incomsistent with Disaster Management plans including lack of multiple exit points etc

The government has formulated the National Policy on Disaster Management, 2009, that seeks to address these challenges through

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① Mandates setting up of Disaster management fund to finance resilient infrastructure and expenditure of equipments

② Adequate teacher Training and Mock Drills for students

③ Inclusion of disaster management courses in curriculum

④ Inclusion of concept of disaster preparedness in Building construction codes for schools

⑤ Regular inspection of equipments, particularly in vulnerable areas

⑥ Information, Education & communication videos, seminars & workshops for schools.

Thus,
The safety of schools need to be ensured for a comprehensive disaster risk reduction strategy.

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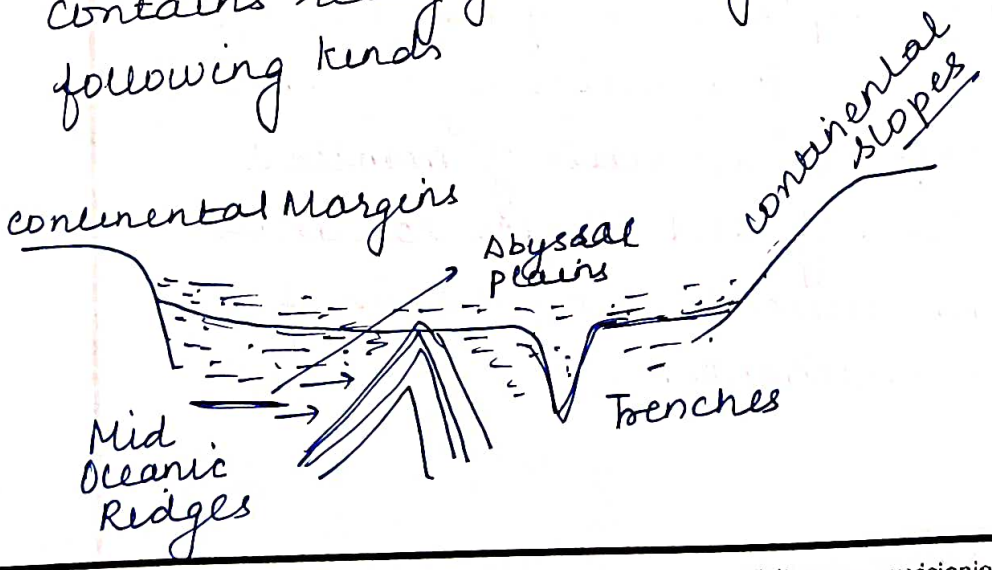
11. Post drift theories based on ocean floor mapping provided new dimensions to the study of distribution of oceans and continents. Elaborate.
(250 words) 15

महासागरीय अधस्तल के मानचित्रण पर आधारित उत्तरवर्ती प्रवाह सिद्धांत ने महासागरों और महाद्वीपों के वितरण के अध्ययन को नए आयाम प्रदान किए हैं। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।

The theories for distribution of oceans & continents given after the Alfred Wegner's continental drift theory are called post drift theories which consisted of Arthur Holmes Convection Current Theory, the ocean floor mapping theory and the Plate Tectonic theory.

The ocean floor mapping was convened post the world war 2 which added to the geological literature :-

1) It made an important discovery that ocean floor isn't plain but contains relief features of the following kinds



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a) The mid oceanic ridges were interconnected chain of mountain systems formed due to volcanic activity of converging boundaries.

b) The trenches were formed due to divergent actions of oceanic crust

c) The abyssal plains were extensive plains between continental margins & mid oceanic ridges. which had deposits of sediments

Thus as opposed to Wegners theory that suggested breakup of the landmass of Pangea due to continents drifting apart through tidal action, the ocean floor mapping provided conclusive evidence of SEA FLOOR SPREADING.

This went indepth to study ocean relief & claimed that formation of oceanic crust due to activities of mantle & cooling down of underwater volcanoes led to the current distribution of oceans & continents.

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This was evidenced by newer deposits on Mid Oceanic ridge & older at the Continental margins.

Further research in seafloor spreading gave way to the theory of plate tectonics which claimed that litosphere is divided into major & minor plates and these plates have been constantly moving over the globe. It was not the continents that drifted but the plates, which continents were a part of.

Thus, the present distribution of Oceans & continents was due to the configuration of these geological plates. and hence post drift theories led to substantiative evidence for the same.

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12. Explain the phenomenon of heat waves. Also, enumerate conditions favourable for the development of heat waves in India and their associated health impacts. **(250 words) 15**

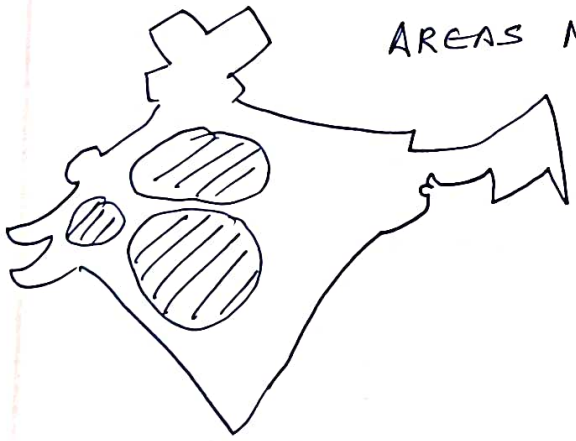
हीट वेव्स की परिघटना की व्याख्या कीजिए। साथ ही, भारत में हीट वेव्स के विकास के लिए अनुकूल परिस्थितियों और उनसे संबद्ध स्वास्थ्य प्रभावों को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए।

Heat waves are defined as prolonged episodes of abnormally high temperature persisting over a considerable amount of area.

IMD (Indian meterological Department defines a heatwave as:-

* Maximum temperature recieving atleast 40°C (for plains) and 30°C (for hills) and an increase of (4-6°C)

The north western, central & south central part of India is particularly vulnerable to the heatwaves. Heat waves typically occurs between March and June.



AREAS MOST SEVERELY IMPACTED DUE TO HEAT WAVES

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Conditions favourable for development of heat waves in India include:-

① Prevalence of hot dry air over India during peak summer months. This has been augmented with lack of moisture in upper atmosphere.

② cloudless sky leading to increased isolation

③ Anticyclonic flow due to high pressure system forcing dry air downwards. This sinking air acts like a DOME and keeps warm air intact.

④ Prevalence of Anthropogenic factors including:-

1) Presence of Urbat Heat Island effect wherein the temperature of urban areas is high over the surrounding rural areas due to inavailability of open spaces

2) concretisation leading to low albedo effect of Asphalt.

3) Pollution, Dust from construction deforestation and other global warmy inducing industrial activities

4) Changing weather patterns due to climate change vagaries.

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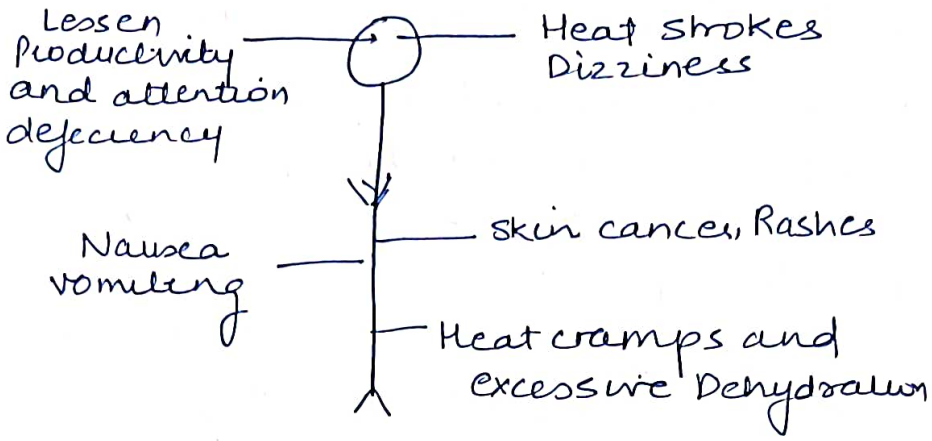
ASSOCIATED HEALTH IMPACTS OF HEAT WAVE



Prolonged exposure can also cause Illness, death, permanent impairment. Here people with preexisting conditions and senior citizens, children become vulnerable.

Heat strokes not only impact the health of human but also lead to drastic changes in behaviour patterns of biodiversity and leads to habitat fragmentation

Health impacts lead to greater economic costs due to need for hospitalisation & severe stress on power grids for cooling equipments.

Episodes of heatwaves in India are growing as changes in climate intensifies, therefore global emission reduction can help to mitigate heatwave occurences in future.

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13. Elaborate various factors that determine the nature of circulation of the oceanic currents. Also, highlight the major oceanic currents along with their unique features. **(250 words) 15**

महासागरीय धाराओं के संचलन की प्रकृति को निर्धारित करने वाले विभिन्न कारकों का सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए। साथ ही, प्रमुख महासागरीय धाराओं के साथ-साथ उनकी अनूठी विशेषताओं को भी रेखांकित कीजिए।

Ocean currents are directed, coordinated continuous movement of sea water.

The following are the factors that determine the nature of circulation of oceanic currents :-

① Solar Radiation → Equator - water gets heated up - causing it to expand and flow towards poles

② Wind :- Wind blowing on ocean surface moves the water, hence often wind direction determines ocean current direction on surface.

③ Gravity :- Pressure gradient is created due to downward pull of gravity

④ Coriollis force :- Moves water in right in northern hemisphere and left in southern hemisphere

⑤ Differences in Water Salinity :- Salinity causes density differences. denser water sinks, this causes upwelling & downwelling

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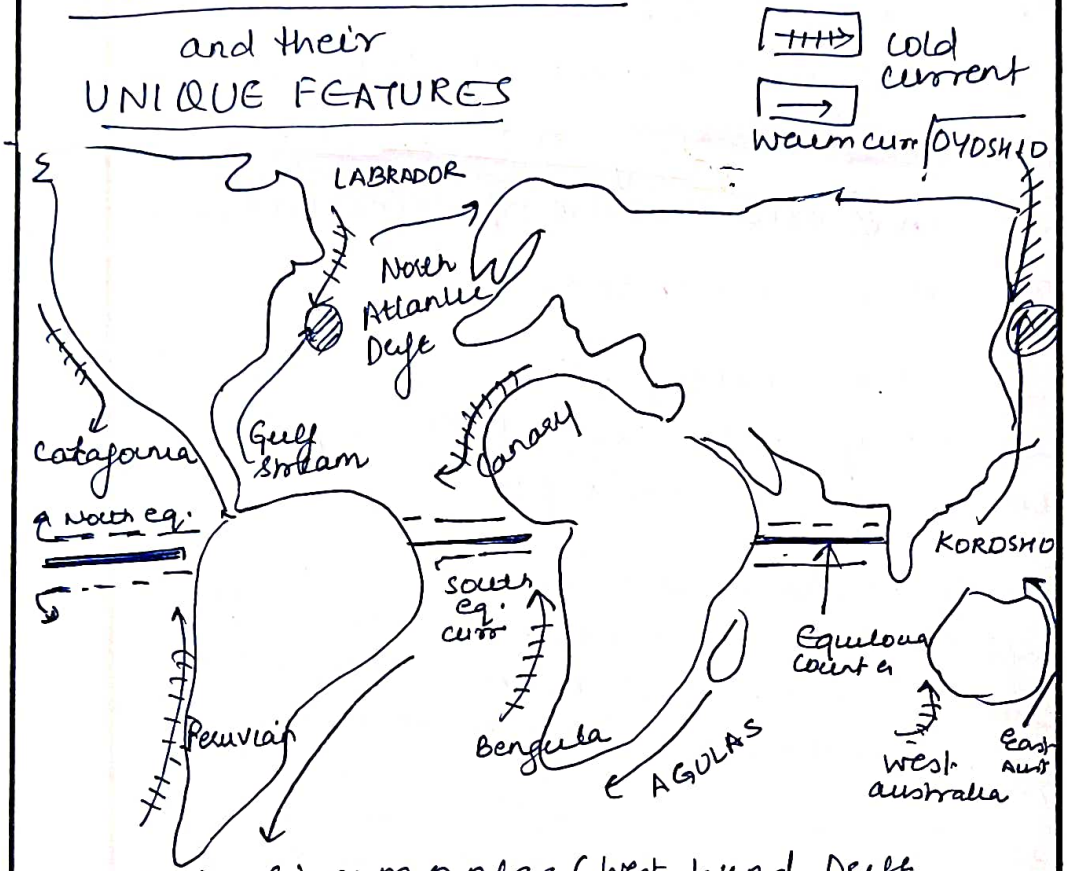
⑥ Temperature :. Increase in temperature gradient increases the strength of movement of ocean currents

MAJOR OCEANIC CURRENTS and their UNIQUE FEATURES



Antartic circumpolar (West Wind Drift

EQUITORIAL CURRENTS - Flow from east to west with equatorial counter current west to east

Antartic Circumpolar current - keeps antarctic sheilded from warm waters and vice versa

Peruvian current - keeps hot Peru climate cool also responsible for Atacama desert

Oyashio & Kurioshio - Japanese shore form

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nutrient rich fishing grounds

Labrador Current & Gulf stream - Creates fishing grounds in Newfoundland region. Labrador current also responsible for cyclones in America

North Atlantic Drift - Warm offshoot of gulf stream keeps the British Islands warm.

Canary current & Benguela current - Dessicating effects of these cold currents & lack of moisture is responsible for formation of Sahara & Kalahari Desert.

Indian monsoon is also impacted by the Northeast monsoon current, Southwest monsoon current and the Somali current -

Therefore, oceanic currents play an important role in determination of climate, topographic, economic activities and precipitation pattern of surrounding areas and hence must be carefully analysed.

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14. Despite both being polar regions, the environmental threats faced by the Arctic region are slightly accentuated as compared to Antarctica. Comment. Also, discuss the measures needed to protect the Arctic ecosystem.

(250 words) 15

दोनों ध्रुवीय क्षेत्र होने के बावजूद, अंटार्कटिका क्षेत्र की तुलना में आर्कटिक क्षेत्र द्वारा सामना किए जाने वाले पर्यावरणीय खतरों में वृद्धि हुई है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। साथ ही, आर्कटिक पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र की रक्षा के लिए आवश्यक उपायों की विवेचना कीजिए।

According to the WWF- Arctic programme, the average rise in the temperature of the artic regions has been double when compared to the global average rise in temperature. This augment with 75% reduction in ice covers over the last 50 years have added to the perils of the artic region.

COMMONALITY OF THREATS FACED BY POLAR REGIONS:-

According to IPCC special Report on oceans Cryosphere in a changing climate, the polar regions are witnessing threats due to

- Increased global warming & global ocean heat increase
- Increasing sea levels due to glacier melting and permafrost thawing
- Albedo effect weakening
- Bio diversity loss.
- Ocean acidification

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However, this effect is more pronounced over arctic due to :-

↳ ① Higher impact of anthropogenic activities like pollution, over fishing, oil drilling seismic blasting, oil spills, transportation

↳ ② Conflict over Artic - Russia, Canada, Norway & Denmark have put overlapping claims for extended continental shelves that has led to danger to sea bed resources

↳ ③ Increased temptations to take first mover advantage :- Eg - Russian - Nuclear submarine fleet, Polar Silk Road of China and possibility of Northern Sea Route

↳ ④ Unlike Antarctica, Artic is not treated as a global common and has no overarching treaty for its conservation.

With thawing permafrost, sudden storms increasing sea levels, the tundra region which is a home to many indigenous groups and biodiversity is under threat and the following measures are needed to protect the Arctic ecosystem :-

↳ Revamping Role of Artic Council :-

* Making it more inclusive with countries around world participating in conservation and sustainable development of Arctic

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* Prioritise action against climate change as done in Paris agreement
* Funding mechanisms for Arctic to be instituted

(2) Increased Research and Studies on temperature, precipitation and summer ice melt patterns with focus on biodiversity conservation

(3) Use of mechanisms like UNCLOS to bring cooperation on ice bed resources and imposing penalties on over exploitation through fishing & oildrilling

Hence,
Preservation of the arctic is of utmost importance as ice melting will set in motion a positive feedback loop & endanger the livelihood of 3.8 billion coastal dependant communities due to unprecedented sea level rise

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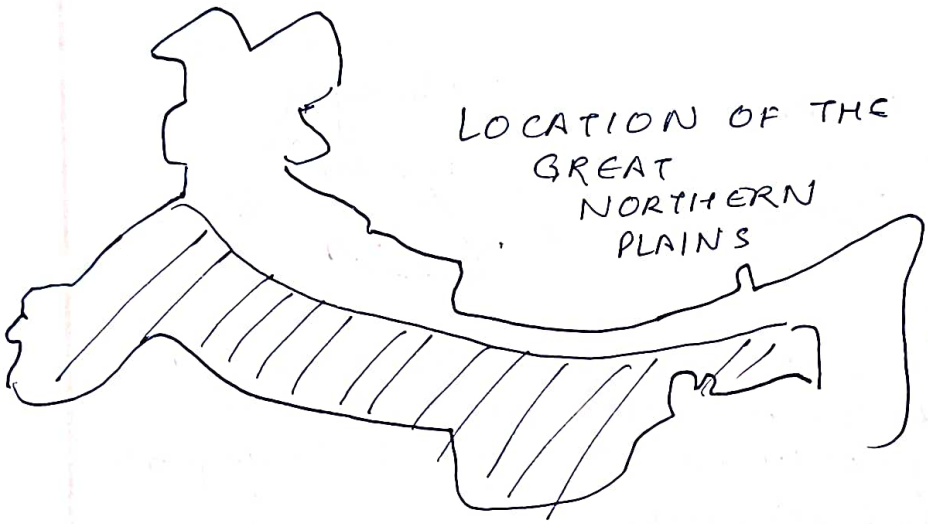
15. Explaining the formation of the Great Northern Plains of India, describe its physiographic divisions and their important characteristics.

(250 words) 15

भारत के विशाल उत्तरी मैदानों के निर्माण की व्याख्या करते हुए, इसके भौगोलिक विभाजन और उनकी महत्वपूर्ण विशेषताओं का वर्णन कीजिए।

The great Northern plains consisting of the fertile soil is the granary and livelihood sustainence system of India.

They are the youngest physographic feature of the Indian subcontinent



FORMATION OF GREAT NORTHERN PLAINS

About 50 million years ago, when the Indian plate collided with the Eurasian plate, the himalayan range and the tethys sea were uplifted.

This upward movement led to a subsidence of the northern part of the peninsula and a large basin was formed

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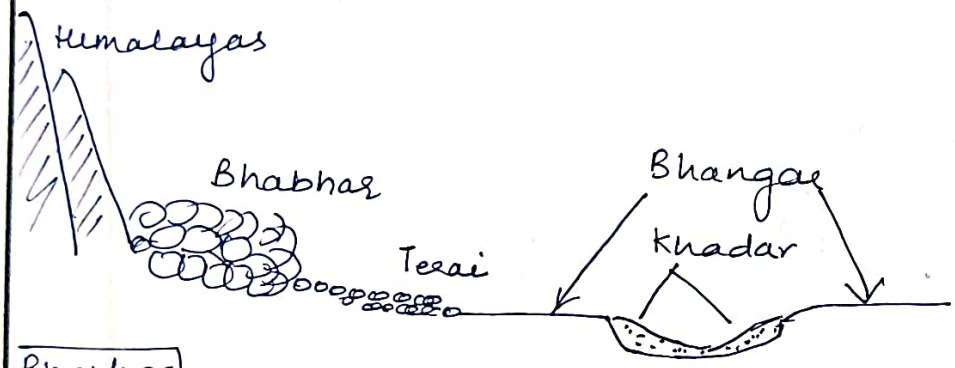
This basin was filled with the sediments from the rivers which came from the himalayan mountains & southern peninsula.

These extensive alluvial deposits led to the formation of the northern plains of India

THE PHYSIOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS OF NORTHERN PLANE IS AS FOLLOWS :-



Bhabhar

- 8-10 km belt running from Indus to teesta
- Foothills of himalays - coarser sediments
- High porosity - dry river courses - huge pebble studded rock beds
- Not suitable for cultivations. only for trees with large roots

Terai

- Marshy, south of Bhabhar
- Reemergence of streams
- Earlier dense forest now converted to agricultural land

Bhangar

- older alluvium along river beds
- Dark, humus rich -

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- Clayey with lime nodules - kankar
- Found in Doabs
- In dry areas, saline efflorescence (Reh, Kallar Bhur)

Khadar

- New alluvium along flood plains
- light coloured, sandy textured
- most fertile soil
- Repeated renewal every year through river deposits.

IMPORTANT CHARATERISTICS :-

1. Support 40% of total population of countries
2. Fertile alluvial soil, flat surface, favourable river sources, climate facilitate intense agricultural activity
3. Significant navigable routes
4. Rich sources of mineral deposits
5. Also a centre for tourism and industrial development and service based industries

Thus, the great northern plains cater to huge diversity and variety of cultures. It is the cradle of economic progress in India.

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16. In recent years, states of Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh have witnessed an alarming increase in the rate of landslides. Discuss the reasons for this increase and suggest some remedial measures.

(250 words) 15

हाल के वर्षों में, उत्तराखंड और हिमाचल प्रदेश राज्यों में भूस्खलन की दर में खतरनाक वृद्धि देखी गई है। इस वृद्धि के कारणों की विवेचना कीजिए तथा कुछ उपचारात्मक उपाय सुझाइए।

Landslides are rapid downward movement of rock, earth, debris under the influence of gravity. According to a report released by NCRB, about 300 people died in 2019 in Uttrakhand and Himachal due to increased landslides.

FACTORS FOR THIS INCREASING RATE OF LANDSLIDES:-

Anthropogenic

Natural Factors.

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Natural Factors include:-

1) Uttrakhand + Himachal lie on foothills of young-fold unstable ever increasing himalayas which makes the region earthquake prone; threatening the integrity of soil through seismic shocks

2) Steeper slopes causing orographic precipitation

3) Phenomena like excessive rain, glacial lake outburst, cloudbursts

Anthropogenic causes

① unsustainable Development Activities

① Large Hydro Power Projects = (Eg:- Projects like Nathpa Jhakri on Satley faced protests) Big projects lead to deforestation threatening soils capacity to bind itself and damming of rivers causes induced earthquakes

② Road/Highway/Infrastructure Projects:- Eg- Char Dham Projects which causes mountain base erosion

③ Jhum cultivation/Shifting agriculture further degrades soil

④ Global warming - causing glacial melting, glacial outburst and forest fires.

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However, All is not lost and Remedial measures include :-

Risk Reduction and Prevention

Mitigation and Adaption

Risk Reduction techniques include (Short term) :-

- Early Warning System
- Slope Stabilisation Measures
- Construction of retention walls
- Use of Metal Wall compactness
- Hazard Zonation Mapping
- Detailed EIA & SIA before undertaking hydropower projects

Mitigation Measures include : (Long term) :-

- Restriction of unsustainable construction + development of large settlements in valleys
- Terrace Farmings
- Large scale Afforestation
- Promotion of Ecotourism

India is one of the worst affected nations by landslides. In order to minimise the economic loss suffered due to hazardous landslide the NDMA guidelines which detail site specific studies, institutional mechanisms for assessment of stability status must be implemented in letter & spirit.

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17. Haphazard growth and poor management make the Indian cities the locus of disasters, both large and small. Comment. Also, discuss the current gaps in policies in addressing these challenges. **(250 words) 15**

अव्यवस्थित विकास तथा निम्न स्तरीय प्रबंधन ने बड़े और छोटे दोनों प्रकार के भारतीय शहरों को आपदाओं का केंद्र बना दिया है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। साथ ही, इन चुनौतियों का समाधान करने में नीतियों में विद्यमान वर्तमान अंतराल पर चर्चा कीजिए।

According to the Global Assessment Report 2019, Disaster vulnerability increases with unplanned urbanisation and overpopulation of areas.

Reasons for increasing disaster vulnerability of cities include:-

① Haphazard growth → Overpopulation, increasing congestion makes the spread of infectitious diseases quick and uncontrollable. This was highlighted in the increasing number of COVID cases in congested areas

Population pressure also exerts burden on land fertility and stability causing earthquakes and destabilises drainage systems

② Poor Management – Through lack of public amenities, non adherence to disaster resilient building codes and land use guidelines, concretisation

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and encroachment of erstwhile wetlands & biodiversity hotspots disturbs the climatic and atmospheric precarious balance which is responsible for :-

1) Disasters like Urban Flooding Mumbai 2005, Chennai, Kerala, etc.

2) Landslides in Uttrakhand, Himachal

3) Earthquakes in seismically sensitive zones

4) Formation of Urban Heat Islands in States like Madhya Pradesh

5) Tsunamis and Cyclones impacting coastal areas which have been left without defences due to non adherence of Coastal regulation zones & deforestation of mangrove ecosystem

6) Fire instances in Delhi's coaching institute and food mandi's

Deforestation, sand mining & flood plain encroachment further aggravate vulnerability

- HIGH CONCENTRATION OF PEOPLE + CRIPPLING OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE + URBAN POOR IN SLUMS

increases the risk profile of urban areas

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The current gaps in policies in addressing these gaps include:-

1. Lack of Bottom up approach and involving local governance in Disaster Management plan formation. This makes plans impractical & delays first response to disaster
2. One size fit approach with centralised control (As seen during COVID lockdown)
3. Lack of Hazard zonation, incident mapping for localised disasters.
4. Focus on relief and rehabilitation and ignoring mitigation & adaption
5. Lack of empirical and databacked decision making without early warning systems
6. Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's) in event of emergency not in place
7. Coordination issues, manpower shortages, funding gaps & lack of community's capability to deal with disaster.

Therefore, disaster risk reduction strategies including adherence to resilient infrastructure construction codes, coastal regulation zones, awareness of disasters is essential to build back a better urban society.

Japan, inspite of facing disasters every year, is a benchmark for sustainable urbanisation. India should replicate their best practices.

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18. What are the reasons behind vulnerability of coastal areas to cyclones in India? In this context, critically discuss India's cyclone management framework. **(250 words) 15**

भारत में तटीय क्षेत्रों की चक्रवातों के प्रति सुभेद्यता के लिए कौन-से कारण उत्तरदायी हैं? इस संदर्भ में, भारत के चक्रवात प्रबंधन ढांचे की समालोचनात्मक विवेचना कीजिए।

The recent IPCC Report on Oceans & cyrosphere indicates that warming of oceans will lead to an increased frequency and intensity of cyclones with 3.5 billion to 3.8 billion coastal communities being at risk

India has a long coastline of 7500 km and this increases the vulnerability of coastal areas to cyclones in India.

REASONS FOR INCREASING VULNERABILITY

1) Increased ocean temperatures :- A 0.8°C increase has been witnessed in sea & Ocean temperatures which strengthens cyclonic activities and is a direct consequence of GLOBAL WARMING

2) Anthropogenic activities :-

↳ Shoreline development (Tourism Hubs, Ports, cities - compromising environmental balance for economic development)

↳ Deforestation - Severely impacting mangroove forests

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3) Earlier majorly the eastern coast was impacted but due to warming up of arabian sea cyclones such as Nisarga have also struck the Western Coast (Mumbai)

4) Overpopulation, encroachment, sand mining, rapid construction of coastal infrastructure without adherence to CRZ (Coastal Regulation Zones) have aggravated the vulnerability.

Cyclones like Amphan, Tauktae, Fani & Yaas have exposed India's cyclone management framework :-

1) Reactive rather than proactive response:- Lack of preparedness in terms of Early warning systems, hazard zoning, risk assessment

2) Localised response without centre state coordination due to vulnerability of coastal states, therefore there is excessive reliance on state funds.

3) Non enforcement of NDMA guidelines on creation of DISASTER RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE

4) Lack of effective drainage systems to deal with consequent flash floods

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However all is not gloomy -

Odisha has set up a DISASTER PREPAREDNESS FRAMEWORK consisting of:-

1) Regular cabinet meetings
2) Separate financing
3) Building cyclone shelters
4) Institution of an Early Warning system and Odisha Disaster Rapid Action Force.

However more needs to be done :-

- Use of Drones, Doppler, cyclone centres for cyclone probing
- Creation of COASTAL BIOSHIELD
- Embankment & all weather road construction
- Power grids should be underground to save power infrastructure & ensure structural integrity
- Flood Inundation Management & flood zoning need to be undertaken

India ranked 7th in Global Climate risk index Report in its vulnerability to extreme climate related events. Thus there is an immediate need for effective and stronger cyclone mitigation measures.

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19. To build greater disaster resilience amongst communities, it is important to avoid looking at disaster events in isolation and understand the interconnections between global disasters. Elaborate, with examples.
(250 words) 15

समुदायों में अधिक आपदा प्रत्यास्थता विकसित करने हेतु, आपदा की घटनाओं को अलग-अलग देखने से बचना और वैश्विक आपदाओं के बीच अंतर्संबंधों को समझना महत्वपूर्ण है। उदाहरण सहित सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।

With increasing climate change, destruction of global commons and scale of interconnectivity through economic development & globalisation, Disaster events have become | PROBLEMS WITHOUT PASSPORTS

The commonality of the sufferings due to disasters can be seen from following examples :-

1. Virus that once originated in Wuhan, took the world by storm and reached even in remotest corners of Antarctica. and has become endemic in many countries now.

2. The locust attacks witnessed by Africa, Middle east and South Asian countries

3. The impacts of global warming has been seen all over the world; as per the latest IPCC Report the world has witnessed the manifestations of increase in average temperature of

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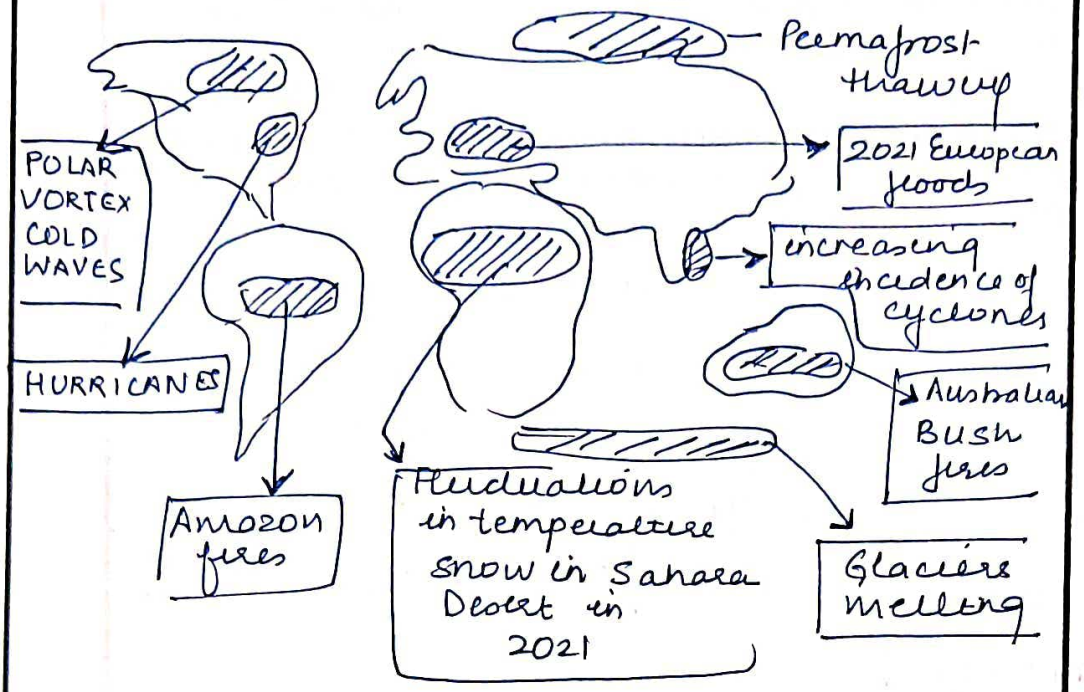
planet in form of various disasters :-



(4) The most dangerous impact of the glacial snowmelt and thawing of permafrost is the rising ocean temperature which further leads to sea level rise. This endangers livelihoods & lives of 3.5 bn coastal communities all over the world.

(5) Abnormal heating up of earth also disrupts El Nino, La Nina, AMC current oscillations which creates changes in normal precipitation patterns and leads to droughts & floods in various parts of world

Importance of understanding global interconnectedness of disasters :-

(1) Interclimatic boundaries getting blurred

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(2) Spillover effects of Environmental Migration & Refugee crisis

(3) Prevention of spread of crippling impact of disasters by taking proactive measures (COVID Lockdown)

(4) Finding a common solution (Eg. COVID Vaccine)

(5) Institutionalising mechanisms for repeat events & mutations (eg:- Genome Sequencing)

Hence greater disaster resilience can be built with help of Global cooperation (Eg:- Japan excelled in creating earthquake resistant infrastructure & collaborating through (Sendai Framework). The need of the hour is to gauge the impacts of disasters not in isolation but through prism of global community capacity building.

India has paved way through its initiative of Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure & other countries should follow suit through protection of global commons.

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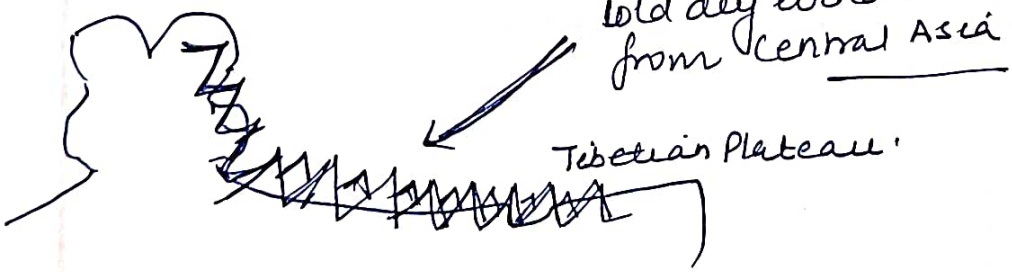
20. How does the Himalayan mountain range shape the climate of the Indian subcontinent? Also, discuss the impact of the warming of the Himalayas on the Indian subcontinent. **(250 words) 15**

हिमालय पर्वत श्रृंखला भारतीय उपमहाद्वीप की जलवायु को कैसे आकार प्रदान करती है? साथ ही, भारतीय उपमहाद्वीप पर हिमालय के उष्मण के प्रभाव की विवेचना कीजिए।

The Himalayas are considered to be the third pole of the world. Due to its unique topography, ecology and innumerable communities that depend on it, Himalayas are the most important part of our climatic heritage.

The Himalayan mountain range act as the climatic Divide. They influence the climate of the Indian subcontinent in the following way:-

① Barrier between India and central Asia :- During winters, the himalayas protect India from the desicating impact of cold and dry air mass of central Asia



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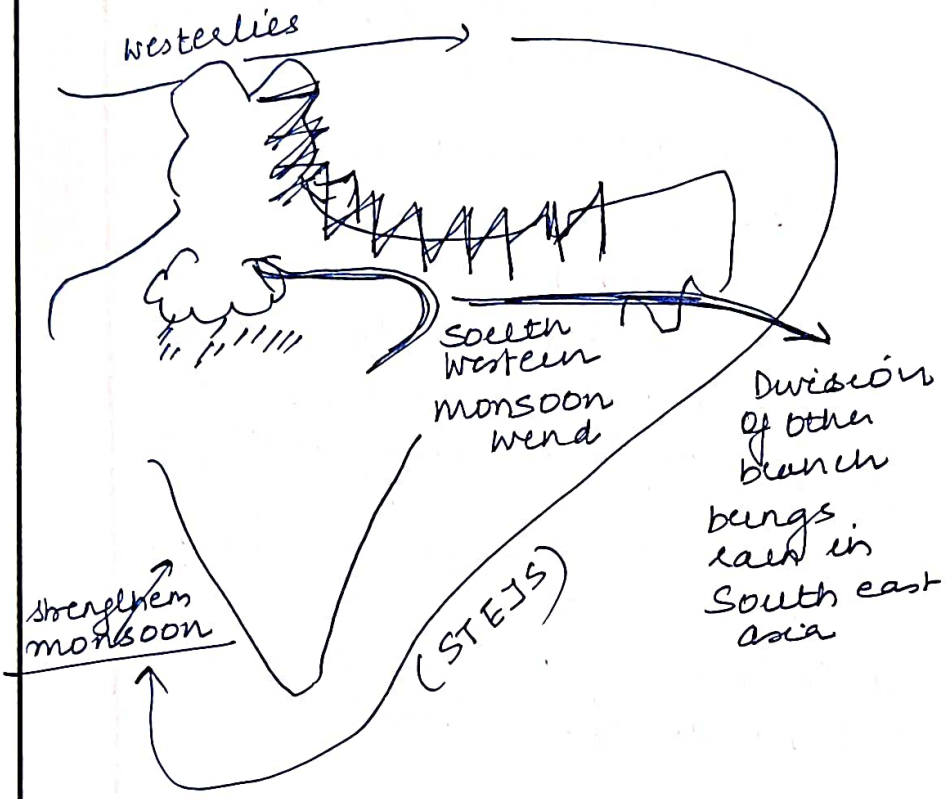
(2) Aids in monsoon :- Himalayas act as effective physical barrier for rain bearing south west monsoon winds. Force them to shed their moisture in northern plains & hills through rains & snow.



It also diverts the westerly jet stream into subtropical easterly jet stream which augments and strengthens rain bearing winds from arabian sea

Thus, without the impact of Himalayas, the Indian subcontinent would have been a cold dessert like Tibetian Plateau.

The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) has claimed that HKH

Do anything margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Hindukush Himalayan Region has warmed faster than global average. The impact of this warming on Indian subcontinent include :-

1) Melting of glaciers - Extreme flooding of rivers in summers and paradox of droughts - impacting lives of 750 million people dependant on these rivers

2) Loss of biodiversity & habitat fragmentation of marine fauna & flora

3) Desertification of land,

4) Chemical runoff in rivers due to snow thaw

5) Impacting indigenous communities by drying up of spring & creating scarcity of freshwater

6) Positive feedback effect on global warming through albedo effect

7) Increased incidences of natural disasters (Uttarakhand Glacial outburst)

To counter the above, National Mission for Sustaining Himalayan Ecosystem (NMSHE) has been put in place to ensure time bound action plan to secure the fragile & diverse ecosystem

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1836)

Name of Candidate	NEEPA MANOCHA		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENGLISH	Registration Number	1253004
Center	OLD RAJINDER NAGAR	Date	19/08/2022

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
4	10	
5	10	
6	10	
7	10	
8	10	
9	10	
10	10	
11	15	
12	15	
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16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न–पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI**
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न–सह–उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

1. The PM-AASHA scheme is aimed at improving procurement mechanism as well as ensuring remunerative prices for farmers. In this context, highlight the various components of the scheme and discuss the concerns associated with it. **(150 words) 10**

पीएम-आशा योजना का उद्देश्य खरीद तंत्र में सुधार के साथ-साथ किसानों के लिए लाभकारी मूल्य सुनिश्चित करना है। इस संदर्भ में, योजना के विभिन्न घटकों को रेखांकित कीजिए तथा इससे जुड़ी चिंताओं पर चर्चा कीजिए।

The PM-AASHA scheme was introduced to tackle the issues of a skewed procurement mechanism and ensure security of non-paddy & wheat growing farmers.

Need
- → crop diversification
- → Bring down the cost of centralised procurement
- → Encouragement of oilseeds, pulses production thus ensuring nutritional security.

components of the scheme :-

① Price support system

↳ To counter excessive production of wheat & rice and no procurement of other crops

↳ Provisions for procurement of < Oilseeds, Copra, Pulses.

② Price deficiency system

↳ Provision of direct payment of deficiency between MSP of oilseeds, copra & pulses and actual sale price in open market

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

↳ Defeciency given as subsidy - directly credited through DBT
↳ Avoid costs of transport, storage associated with govt procurement

(3) Pilot of ~~Pilo~~ Private stockist and storage scheme
↳ Private individuals to procure at MSP on behalf of government.

Although well intentioned it faces certain concerns :-

Concerns
- On ground Procurement of crops inadequate
- No guidelines for private procurement issued
- Regional imbalance of procurement
- Mandi capacity inadequate and unsuitable for pulses & oilseeds
- Lack of Drying yards, weighing machines and cold storage facilities

Way forward
- Imbibing the effecience of process from parent scheme of Bhavantar Bhugtan Yojana (MP)
- White papers and specific guidelines for private procurement

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

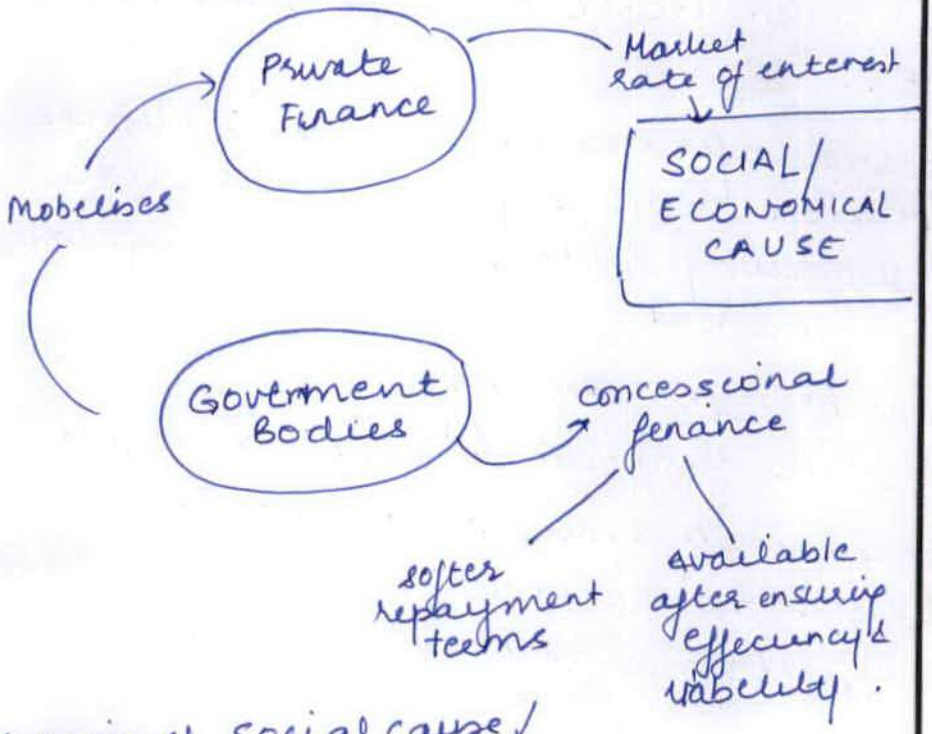
2. Explaining the concept of blended finance, discuss the role it can play in mobilizing capital for infrastructure development in developing countries like India.

(150 words) 10

मिश्रित वित्त की अवधारणा की व्याख्या करते हुए, भारत जैसे विकासशील देशों में अवसंरचना विकास हेतु पूंजी जुटाने में इसकी भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Blended finance refers to combination of concessional and commercial finance wherein government financing crowds in private financing for a social/ economical cause

BLENDED FINANCE



on completion of social cause/ attainment of predetermined threshold, returns offered at market rate to private companies & at concessional rate to governmental bodies.

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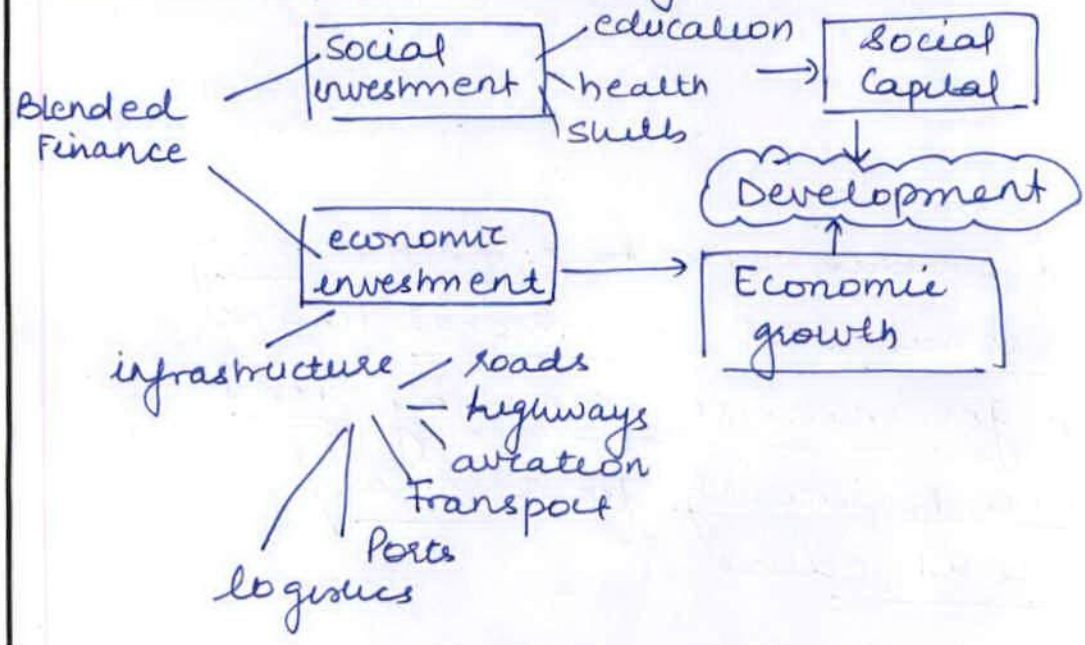
Role it can play in mobilising development



For eg:- NITI Aayog's report on Blended finance in healthcare points out, that :-

1) Blended finance can encourage private participation in projects with higher gestation periods & intensive capital requirement
2) Promotes risk sharing
3) Reduces financial burden on exchequer
4) Precursor to synergistic PPP projects
5) Unlocks the real values of assets, leads to efficient resource allocation.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

3. Discuss the challenges faced in the revival and revamp of dry ports in India and state the measures that can be adopted in this regard.

(150 words) 10

भारत में शुष्क पत्तनों (ड्राई पोर्ट्स) के पुनरुद्धार और सुधार में आने वाली चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए तथा इस संबंध में अपनाए जाने वाले उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

Dryport refers to the inland container depots which reduce the workload and congestion at major ports by providing space & time utility for cargo storage.

Dryports are a crucial link to port development however out of 300+ dryport only about half of them are operational.

Thus there is a need of revival & revamp of dryports. The following challenges are faced in the same:-

Challenges

① Requirement of large swathes of land (problems in land acquisitions, displacement issues)

② Lack of adequate finance due to hesitancy of private sector to participate

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

③ Capacity limitations :- Tedious bundling & unbundling provisions due to lack of containers (India had to import containers in year 2021)

④ Huge logistics costs (14% of GDP) and customs department's redtapism and delay in clearances.

Measures that can be adopted in this regard

- Sagarmala Project (for Port led infrastructure development)
- Hub and spokes model to reduce logistics costs
- Single window custom clearance system and digital invoicing on lines of e-way bill & PARIVESH portal
- New Major Port Authorities Bill can ~~provi~~ provide professionalism & autonomy in port development

Thus, the new programmes like PM-GATI SHAKTI which focusses on economic infrastructure development can include revamping of Dryports for efficient trade & transport in India.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

4. Monoculture is one of the major threats to ensuring food security and sustainability of Indian agriculture. Discuss. **(150 words) 10**
एकल कृषि (मोनोकल्चर) खाद्य सुरक्षा और भारतीय कृषि की संधारणीयता सुनिश्चित करने के समक्ष विद्यमान प्रमुख खतरों में से एक है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Monoculture refers to growing a single crop in the soil over and over each cropping season.

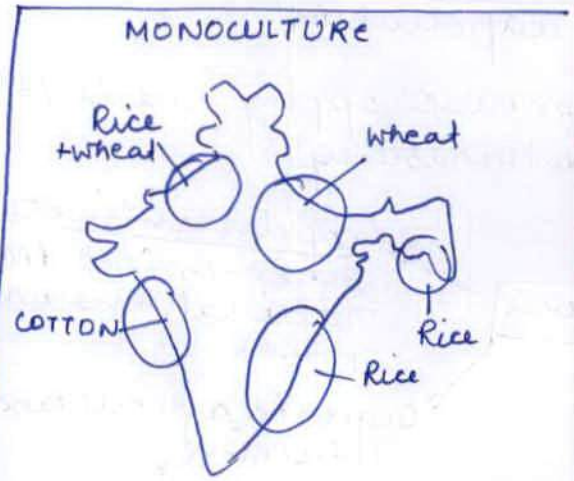
Skewed procurement incentives, imbalances created by green revolution and primitive state of agriculture have led to increased cultivation of rice & wheat in India.

Monoculture is a threat to :-

① Food security

ⓐ Preference of farmers to grow the same crop would lead to excesses and deficiencies of nutrients.

eg Excessive Rice and Wheat capacities have lead to micronutrient & protein deficiency (HIDDEN HUNGER) and higher carbohydrate diet which may lead to obesity



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(b) Excessive production may cause lack of storage facilities which lead to wastage of grains causing shortages.

(c) Excessive production may impair soil fertility which may lead to soil degradation & cause food insecurity

(2) Sustainability

(1) Rice & Wheat production → Lack of Pulses → No natural nitrogen fixation (caused by legumes) → Soil degradation + sustainability impaired

(2) Rice & Wheat are water guzzling crops → dependence of agriculture on groundwater (80%) through canals & tubewell → Vertual water trade → Water Scarcity

(3) Rice also produces methane in environment (transplantation)

(4) Stubble burning cause of PM2.5 & PM10 leads to airpollution

Thus monocropping leads to environmental unsustainability

Measures
- → Crop diversification through schemes like PM-AASHA, national mission on oilseeds & pulses
- → Organic agriculture and natural farming

Thus, multicropping will help to double farmers income.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

5. While highlighting the impact of single-use plastic on health and the environment, state the recent efforts taken by the government to curb plastic pollution in India. **(150 words) 10**

स्वास्थ्य और पर्यावरण पर एकल-उपयोग वाले प्लास्टिक के प्रभाव को रेखांकित करते हुए, भारत में प्लास्टिक प्रदूषण को रोकने के लिए सरकार द्वारा हाल ही में किए गए प्रयासों का उल्लेख कीजिए।

single use plastic is the globally most produced plastic out of which only 20% is recycled.

Impacts of single use plastic (SUP)

- Health
  - Human health
    - disruption of endocrine system, cancers, toxicity, hormonal imbalanced
  - Animal health
    - Dangerous to marine health
    - causes entanglement, suffocation, ingestion (eg whale dies of 33 pound plastic on indonesian beach)
- Environment
  - High carbon footprint
  - Huge cause of menace like beach litter, fires at landfills
  - Disintegrates into micro-plastics which is harmful for oceans, air and soil.
  - leaches groundwater
  - incineration of SUP is carbon intensive

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Efforts taken to curb plastic pollution

1. Banning of production, manufacture, stockpile and sale of single use plastic in certain commodities (straws, earbuds, plastic bags)
2. Community efforts for plastic collection (Eg: Swach Sagar, Surakshit Sagar beach cleaning programmes)
3. Project REPLAN :- Reducing plastic wastes
4. Impetus to circular economy
5. Setting up of waste to energy programme
6. Plastic waste management rules that prescribe extended producer responsibility for end of use life of plastics.

Thus plasticfree economy is essential for India's clean, green, & blue economy

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

6. Aapda Mitra – a force of volunteers from across India trained in disaster response – is becoming a game changer in the field of disaster management in the country. Elaborate. **(150 words) 10**
आपदा मित्र-आपदा प्रतिक्रिया हेतु प्रशिक्षित भारत भर के स्वयंसेवकों का एक बल-देश में आपदा प्रबंधन के क्षेत्र में एक गेम चेंजर के रूप में उभर रहा है। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।

Aapda mitra is a cohesive force of volunteers from vulnerable groups (prone to hazards & disasters) that are trained in disaster management.

This has been a game changer in field of COMMUNITY BASED DISASTER MANAGEMENT.

Aapda mitras are involved in:-

1. Acting as Quick Response team to supplement efforts of NDRF
2. Ensuring dissemination of early warning systems and manage evacuations from hazard prone areas.
3. Ensuring rescue of people due to their prior knowledge about affected area.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(4) Provision of essential services of food, water, medicines to affected areas.

(5) For eg:- During COVID-19, Aapda mitra handled grain distribution and ensured lockdown was being followed. They also led the immunisation drives

(6) Help in recovery efforts by monitoring physical capital, social conflicts & mental health of victims.

Thus, through their spirit of volunteerism, prior knowledge, resource base and government training Aapda mitras can build COMMUNITY RESILIENCE, prevent disasters and if it happens help to build back better

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

7. Why is the rise in lone wolf attacks considered as a serious challenge for security agencies around the world? Highlight the role of the internet in exacerbating such attacks. **(150 words) 10**

विश्व भर में लोन वुल्फ हमलों में वृद्धि को सुरक्षा एजेंसियों के लिए एक गंभीर चुनौती क्यों माना जाता है? ऐसे हमलों की वृद्धि में इंटरनेट की भूमिका पर प्रकाश डालिए।

Lone wolf attacks refer to attacks by single perpetrators instead of a collaborated attack by a gang of terrorist.

Lone wolf attacks are considered serious challenge for security agencies because:-

1. Difficult to detect due to lack of intelligence gathered through facing planning & collaboration calls
2. cannot be prevented due to lack of information on location time and mode of attack

Role of internet in exacerbating such attacks

1. Radicalisation - easy & internet has mass reach

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(2) Difficult to distinguish from internet banter :- eg ('clash of ISIS game)

(3) Increased exposure to internet gives simplicity to logistics (Eg DIY Bomb kits - Youtube)

Solutions

↳ Deradicalisation
↳ Strict vigilance control
↳ Stronger ammunition & dual use chemical sale laws

Thus, lone wolf attacks can be stopped ~~the~~ using a comprehensive National Counter Terrorism Doctrine

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

8. The fundamental inefficiencies embedded in our military structures and processes are now being addressed through a slew of defence reforms in the country. Discuss. **(150 words) 10**
हमारे सैन्य ढांचे और प्रक्रियाओं में अंतर्निहित मूलभूत अक्षमताओं को अब देश में विभिन्न रक्षा सुधारों के माध्यम से दूर किया जा रहा है। चर्चा कीजिए।

The Indian armed forces and military is suffering from increased technological obsolence of equipment dependence on foreign technology, gender bias and lack of synergies.

Defence Reforms

(1) Mordernisation :- Increased research and academia linkage, lab to lines (Mission Gyan Raksha Shakti) and Defence Industrial corridors

(2) Indigeneousation - Through introduction of negative import list, reservation for MSME's and changes in defence procurement Policy (Indian - Buy, Make)

(3) Professionalism :- Through corporatisation of Ordnance factory Board, increased private sector participation and forming

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Project management units

(4) Exports :- Defence Diplomacy and changes in offset policy & line of credit for defence exports

(5) Inclusive - Through permanent commission to women

(6) Synergy :- Through CDS (Chief of Defence staff) and formation of Theatre commands.

(7) Tech savvy - Agnipath

Hence, the indian armed forces are on path to become upgraded tech enabled and more responsive to emerging threats

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

9. In light of the recent establishment of the WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine in India, discuss the advantages and challenges in mainstreaming traditional medicine in the country. **(150 words) 10**

हाल ही में, भारत में डब्ल्यू. एच. ओ. ग्लोबल सेंटर फॉर ट्रेडिशनल मेडिसिन की स्थापना के आलोक में, देश में पारंपरिक चिकित्सा को मुख्यधारा में लाने के लाभों और चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

The culture of traditional medicine in india goes beyond healing, it is a life force and includes sustainability, mental health, lifestyle changes & boosting immunity

Advantages of mainstreaming traditional medicine

① Immunity booster (eg - Ayurvedas Unani medicines)
② Ensure good lifestyle (Eg :- Yoga)
③ Cater to huge demand (Eg WHO estimates 80% of demand for traditional medicine)
④ Ensure research & development and generate awareness in fields of Sowa Rigpa - etc
⑤ Complementing allopathy with no side effects
⑥ Help in formation of human capital.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Disadvantages :-

1. No proven benefits :- Considered to be a pseudo science
2. Lack of qualified professional (46% Only qualified - rest quacks)
3. Long time taken for healing
4. Low demand (8.6%) in outpatient care.
5. Difficult to change lifestyles in growing urbanisation.

Wayforward
- → Aayush GRID
- → Aayush Ministry mission to be integrated with Aayushman Bharat
- → Traditional Knowledge Digital library strengthened

Thus there is a requirement of cross learning between modern & traditional science of medicine

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

10. Nano Urea Liquid has the potential to transform farming in India and across the world by improving productivity while reducing environmental pollution and input cost. Discuss. **(150 words) 10**

नैनो यूरिया लिक्विड में पर्यावरण प्रदूषण और इनपुट लागत को कम करने के साथ-साथ उत्पादकता में सुधार करके भारत और विश्व भर में कृषि कार्य को रूपांतरित करने की क्षमता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Due to its higher surface area to volume ratio, nano urea liquid can revamp the farming practices by :-

(1) Improve Productivity

* Overuse of fertilisers can be avoided (maintain N:P:K ratio to 4:2:1 as compared to present 7:4:1)

* Direct root zone application prevent runoff.

(2) Reducing pollution

* No leaching of urea to groundwater
* No harmful chemical emissions due to applications

(3) Reduce input lost :-

* Effecient & Targetted usage

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

* No diversion to industrial usage

However
- Lack of technology (in nascent stage to study impact on crop quality & food security)
- Finances to fund research, make farmers aware and encourage the switch.

Wayforward
- Awareness through KVK's
- Subsidise introduction and usage.
- Creation of FPO's to enable the switch

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

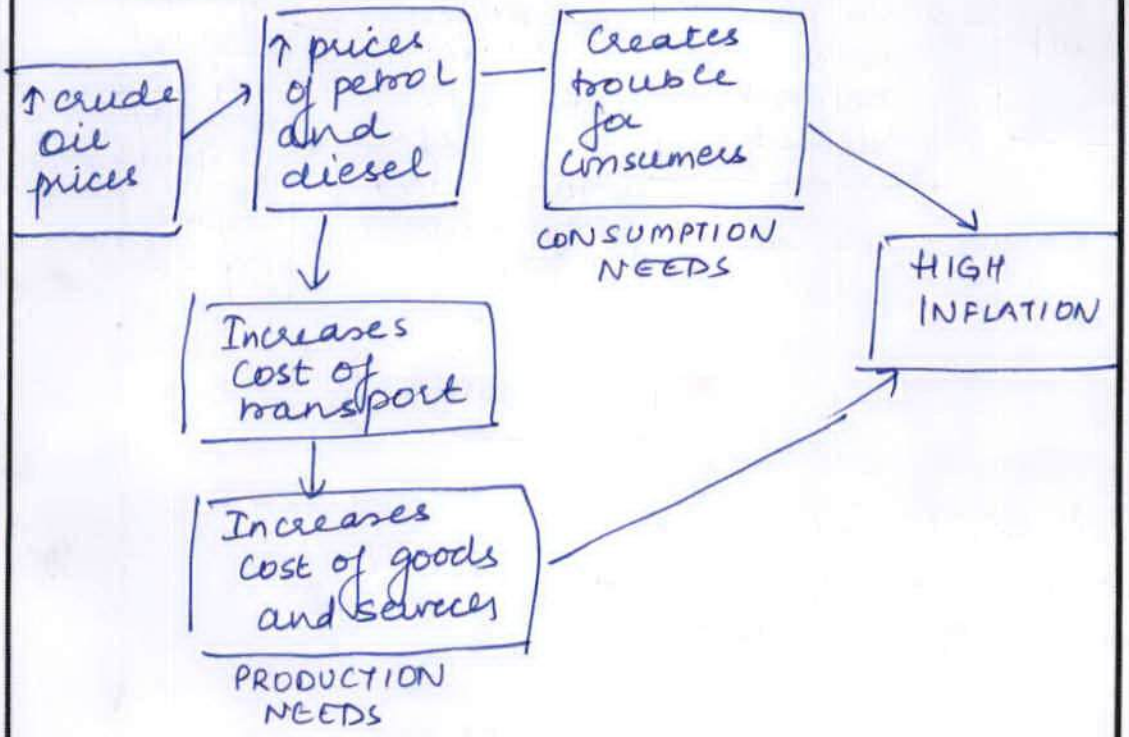
11. Discuss the domino effect of high crude oil prices on the Indian economy. Also, enumerate the measures that India can take in this context.

(250 words) 15

भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था पर कच्चे तेल की ऊंची कीमतों के डोमिनो प्रभाव की विवेचना कीजिए। साथ ही, भारत द्वारा इस संदर्भ में अपनाए जा सकने वाले उपायों को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए।

India has been witnessing severe current account deficit due to rising crude oil prices caused by geopolitical volatilities including Russia Ukraine War, inhibition of OPEC countries to increase production & scramble for energy resources by europe.

contagion effect of high crude oil prices in Indian context.



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Thus, high crude oil prices causes inflation in domestic economy

↑ High crude oil prices → High dependence on imports (80%) → ↑ cost of imports → ↑ current account deficit

↑ in demand for dollar in comparision to rupee → Depreciation of rupee

Thus, high crude oil prices cause depreciation of rupee & High current account deficit

↑ High crude oil prices → No change in government levies on petrol & diesel → Loss of amount of taxes through petrol if government doesn't pass the entire increase burden to consumers → Fiscal space reduced → inability to spend on welfare expenditure

Thus, high crude oil prices also leads to limited fiscal space & decrease in government expenditure

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Measures that can be taken by India in this regard :-

1. Alternative of buying cheaper oil from Russia (eg. use of VOSTRO Accounts)
2. Building up strategic petroleum reserves for contingencies
3. Use of technologies like Ethanol blending (eg 20% target by 2025), methanol use and carbon alternate fuels like H-CNG etc.
4. Self reliance through "Explore in India" (New India@75 strategy) for oil surveying & extraction in offshore fields
5. Use of open market operations by RBI to ensure stability of Rupee.

Thus, India must ensure resilience through self reliance and strategic investments.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

12. The consistent high operating ratio of the Indian Railways is indicative of its incapability to generate high operational surplus. Explain the reasons behind this trend. Also, highlight the remedial measures taken by the government in this regard. **(250 words) 15**

भारतीय रेलवे का लगातार उच्च परिचालन अनुपात उच्च परिचालन अधिशेष सृजित करने में असमर्थता का संकेत है। इस प्रवृत्ति हेतु उत्तरदायी कारणों को स्पष्ट कीजिए। साथ ही, इस संबंध में सरकार द्वारा किए गए उपचारात्मक उपायों को रेखांकित कीजिए।

The operating ratio of Indian Railways according to a CAG report was 98.36%. In addition to this, the cumulative losses of railways amount to 28,000 crore.

~~Thus this yes~~

Reasons for inability of railways to generate high operational surplus

① Service motive of railways → (Exemptions for students, disabled, employees etc)

② Cross subsidisation → Fare to Freight ratio of Indian railways is 0.3, this is lesser than many developed countries (Ratio = 1)

③ Cost overruns due to incompleted projects on account of delays in land acquisition & environmental clearances

④ lack of growth in infrastructure - Over past 5 years 200 new trains have been added

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

but the tracks have increased only by 12% and most of them are narrow

(5) This leads to accidents (76% caused due to derailment)

(6) Target of protests during (Farmer Agitation, Bihar Railway Recruitment & Agnipath scheme)

(7) Lack of private sector participation

Remedial Measures Taken by government in this regard

(1) Private participation through tejas express and invitation to operate on 109 routes

(2) National Railplan which seeks to increase freight proportion in total revenue from 27% to 45%.

(3) Dedicated freight corridors to ensure seamless cargo movement and WAG 21 engines to ensure speed through transportation of perishable commodities (KISAN RAIL)

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(4) Infrastructure improvements through change in tracks – (narrow → Broad) and revamping all level railway crossings.

efforts in Budget 2022-23
- → A e-KAVACH – Automated early warning & collision prevention system
- → One Nation, One Product One station – seeks to improve the infrastructure of railway stations

Thus, railways are most treasured assets of the country.

Way forward
- → Behavioural change in protestors – destroying public property causes huge losses to economy
- → Expediting Ahmedabad Mumbai bullet train after feasibility studies.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

13. Micro food processing sector is the key driver of growth in the Indian economy as it encourages food processing innovation. In this context, state the challenges faced by the micro food processing sector and discuss how the recent initiatives taken by the government aim to address them.

(250 words) 15

सूक्ष्म खाद्य प्रसंस्करण क्षेत्रक भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था में संवृद्धि का प्रमुख चालक है क्योंकि यह खाद्य प्रसंस्करण नवाचार को प्रोत्साहित करता है। इस संदर्भ में, सूक्ष्म खाद्य प्रसंस्करण क्षेत्रक द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों का उल्लेख कीजिए और चर्चा कीजिए कि किस प्रकार सरकार द्वारा हाल ही में प्रारंभ की गई पहलों का उद्देश्य इनका समाधान करना है।

Food processing can enable value addition, export competitiveness reduction of food wastage and doubling farmer income.

Importance of Micro food Processing

- Can curb disguised employment in agricultural sector.
- Flexibility of operation due to small scale
- Can be Operated with limited capital.
- Boost to secondary Agriculture.
- Ensure Agricultural export Basket diversification

This would lead to village entrepreneurship and food processing innovation

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Challenges faced by the micro food processing sector:- (MFP)

① Problems of disaggregation
(Due to their small scale, they encounter problems of lack of marketable surplus)

② Problems of adequate finance for setting up MFP units - due to low credit taking ability & lack of credit worthiness.

③ Market linkages issues
* Lack of transport infrastructure (No provision of cold storage & Reefer vans)
* Lack of Quality certification labs
* Lack of market intelligence

④ Problems of demand
* Lack of awareness about processed food options
* Preference towards natural products

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Initiatives taken to address these challenges:-

① Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Microfood processing units - through infrastructure provision, credit facilities etc.

② ~~KIS~~ SAMPADA Yojana ← Cold storage, Mega Food Parks, Backward forward linkages

③ Priority sector lending for food processing industries

④ TOP to TOTAL / Operation Greens :- To increase shelf life of products by increasing food processing component

Thus, best practices of Amul, Lijjat Papad etc can be scaled for ensuring innovation in food processing

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

14. Despite efforts by successive governments, equitable growth remains elusive and income inequality continues to persist in India. Discuss.

(250 words) 15

क्रमिक सरकारों के प्रयासों के बावजूद, न्यायसंगत विकास दुष्प्राप्य बना हुआ है और भारत में आय असमानता निरंतर बनी हुई है। चर्चा कीजिए।

From various "Garibi hatao" poverty alleviation programmes to targetted and more rights based approaches including Public Distribution of foodgrains through NFSA and MNREGA, india has witnessed several initiatives for inclusive growth.

Yet, equitable growth remains elusive and income inequality continues to persist :-

① According to Oxfam Report

Top 10% own 57% of wealth

Bottom 50% own 13% of wealth

India added 12 billionaires during COVID

STARK INEQUALITY

86% of people experienced a decline in income

concentration of wealth in hands of few → 8.6% projected economic growth yet 25% multidimensionally poor.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Reasons

① Lack of capability approach

ⓐ High illiteracy (More than 25%), ⓑ low health indicators (highest percentage of wasted, stunted children)

ⓒ lack of nutrition (101st/160 countries in Global Hunger Index)

ⓓ lack of skill formation (only 2.5% population formally trained)

② Lack of opportunity

ⓐ Problem of jobless growth [stagnant manufacturing sector, disguised unemployment in agriculture and low jobs in unskilled service sector]

ⓑ Problem of missing Middle - Dwarfism in MSME's

ⓒ Lack of focus on labour intensive formal industries (85% engaged in lowpaying informal jobs)

③ Governance Lacunaes

↳ corruption
↳ Policy paralysis
↳ Lack of social accountability

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Solutions

① Focus on capacity building
① Education → Sarva shiksha Abhiyan
→ Vocationalisation of education
→ Competancy based learning

② Health → Universal health coverage
→ (Aayushman Bharat)
→ Provision of social Security Nets

③ Skill Development → Prepare for IR4.0
- PM kaushal vikas Yojana

② Focus on opportunity

① Manufacturing (Make in India) — MSME's, entrepreneurship, PLI scheme, Atmanirbhar Bharat

② Infrastructure development → NIP, NMP, PM Gati Shakti

③ Labour Codes to be implemented

③ Governance Reforms

↳ Use of progressive taxation (redistribution of wealth)
↳ schemes like MGNREGA, PM-KISAN, to recieve greater Budgetary allocation
↳ ensuring social mobility through alternative livelihoods opportunity = NAMASTE

Thus focus of New India should be Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

15. Stating the factors that determine the employment situation of an economy in the long-term, discuss the measures that are needed for India to address its unemployment problem. **(250 words) 15**

किसी अर्थव्यवस्था की दीर्घावधि में रोजगार की स्थिति को निर्धारित करने वाले कारकों का उल्लेख करते हुए, उन उपायों की विवेचना कीजिए जो भारत में बेरोजगारी की समस्या के समाधान हेतु आवश्यक हैं।

According to the periodic labourforce survey, the unemployment rate in India is 7.8%. This jobless growth witnessed by India, jeopardised the demographic currency.

Determinants of Employment situation in India :-

① Demographic dividend :- This refers to the population of working age people in total population.

↑ Demographic dividend → ↑ workforce → ↑ consumption
↓ dependants → = ↑ Investment
↓
↑ employment

② Women labourforce :- Proportion of women in workforce (In 2022 → 25% women working)

↑ women labourforce → ↑ investment on social & economic services
↑ employment (social services)

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(3) Occupational structure of economy :- presence of a manufacturing base and number of people employed
(eg. Presence of labour intensive industries ↑ employment)

(4) Skill capital (Presence of technical & soft skills required to do the job)
eg. Skill Requirement for IR 4.0

Other than the above, government policies including
- ↳ Budgetary allocations to employment gaurentee schemes (eg. MGNREGA)
- ↳ Attitude towards foreign investment
- ↳ Taxes on startups
- ↳ Financial enablement of entrepreneurship

also determine the level of employment

Measures required to deal with the issue of unemployment in India

(1) Solving presence of MSME drawform & missing middle through MSME involvement in defence production, labour reforms, exclusive government procurement etc.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(2) Skill development through programmes like PM kaushal Vikas yojana,

(3) Agricultural diversification to absorb disguised unemployment through food processing industries, secondary agriculture

(4) Encouraging foreign and private investments in PLI scheme, PM-GATI Shakti

(5) Providing financial assistance for self employment through MUDRA-Startup, Standup India

(6) Converting SEZ into employment enclaves through DESH Bill, 2022

(7) ~~Unity~~ Inducing self reliance through PM Garib Rozgar Protsahan Yojana, PM Swanidhi plan etc.

Thus, the need of hour is decent, empowered formalised workforce (SDG-8) which are not job seekers but job creators.

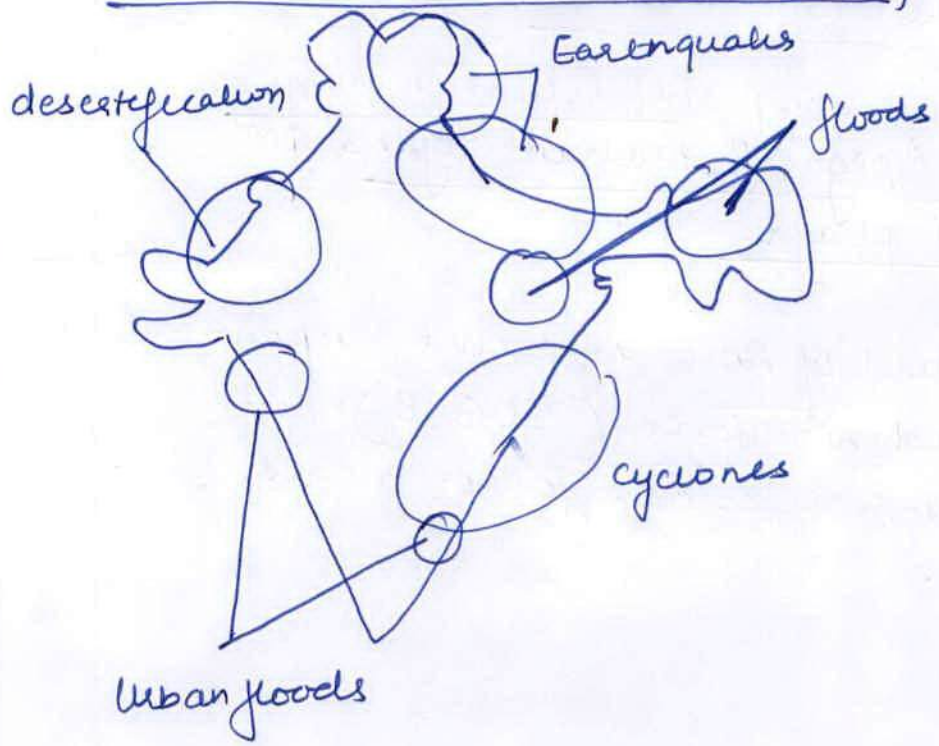
Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

16. In view of the rapidly increasing socio-economic damage caused by disasters, integrating Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) into development planning requires an effective stakeholder engagement mechanism. Discuss. **(250 words) 15**

आपदाओं के कारण तेजी से बढ़ रही सामाजिक-आर्थिक क्षति को देखते हुए, आपदा जोखिम न्यूनीकरण (DRR) को विकास योजनाओं में एकीकृत करने के लिए एक प्रभावी हितधारक जुड़ाव तंत्र की आवश्यकता है। विवेचना कीजिए।

About 86% of the Indian landmass is prone to disasters. Disasters like cyclones floods, droughts, fires, earthquakes and more recently COVID have reversed the socio-economic gains of the country.

VULNERABILITY OF INDIA TO DISASTERS



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Damage caused by Disasters

① Social
- Loss of life and Property
- Land degradation
- Interruption of Education
- Diseases & Disabilities
- crimes, conflicts

② Economic
- Infrastructure & crucial lines of connectivity & communication destroyed
- Financial loss of savings
- High cost of rebuilding
- Rescue efforts

Thus, this calls for integrating Disaster Risk reduction into development planning for effective stakeholder engagement:-

① Through stakeholder engagement → customised solutions can be created → No one size fit all

(Eg:- Mangroove plantation in coastal areas require participation of community [Odisha - community Disaster mitigation Programme]

② Better Response to early warning signals
[eg:- conducting mock drills in earthquakes]

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(3) community knows best, use of stakeholder traditional knowledge in relief and rehabilitation missions

(eg AASHA workers during COVID-19 lockdown ensuring regular antenatal tests and immunisation)

(4) Stakeholders when made aware can act as first responders

(eg Assam neighbours saving an old lady from ravaging floods)

(3) Stakeholder engagement can help in Building Back better —

(eg Latur women SHG – financial assistance after drought)

Thus

Developmental planning must create space for stakeholder engagement through decentralisation (in form of District Disaster management plans) greater awareness and participation of vulnerable population in relief, rescue & recovery efforts.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

17. Provide an account of the existing carbon trading mechanisms in India. Also, discuss the significance of an efficient carbon trading market in the country and state the challenges that currently exist. **(250 words) 15**

भारत में मौजूदा कार्बन व्यापार तंत्र का विवरण प्रस्तुत कीजिए। साथ ही, देश में एक कुशल कार्बन व्यापार बाजार के महत्व पर चर्चा कीजिए और वर्तमान समय में विद्यमान चुनौतियों का उल्लेख कीजिए।

Carbon trading mechanism seeks to work on the principle of 'cap and trade' wherein quotas for emission are set for each producer, those who achieve a reduction in their carbon emission target recieve a reduction certificate which can be ~~exchanged~~ sold to producers who exceed their target.

The carbon trading mechanism in India is managed by the Bureau of Energy efficiency and is called Perform Achieve and Trade scheme.

Co. A — Target 100GHG — Actual 90GHG — Recieve 'CER' 10GHG — sell

Co. B — Target 50GHG — Actual 60GHG — Buy 10GHG — Carbon trading exchange

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Significance of an efficient carbon trading market:-

① Based on concept of polluter pays. therefore brings in environmental consciousness in corporates

② Incorporates value of clean environment in business reporting and accounting

③ Is in line with CDM (Clean Development Mechanism) of Kyoto Protocol

④ Encourages companies to invest in carbon emission reduction technologies through increased research

⑤ will help India to fulfil its enhanced Paris NDC's (Glasgow's Panchamrit promise – to remove 1 billion tonnes of carbon by 2030 and reduce carbon intensity of economy by 45%)

However challenges that currently exist)

① May face similar doom of CDM - no demand for Carbon Reduction certificates)

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(2) Lack of uniform guidelines for emission reporting - difficulty of qualitative measurement

(3) Lack of third party environmental audit and monitoring mechanism for actual emission reduction

(4) Inefficiencies in carbon certificate exchanges - No scalability

Wayforward

→ Investor awareness about environmentally conscious practices which will force companies to adhere to emission reduction

→ Importance to non financial environmental positive externalities created.

The government has brought the Energy Conservation (Ammendment) Bill 2021 to ensure efficiency of carbon trading.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

18. The menace of drug trafficking in India has been on a rise due to a mix of factors, both internal and external. Discuss. Also, state the challenges posed by drug trafficking to India's national security. **(250 words) 15**

भारत में ड्रग ट्रैफिकिंग का खतरा आंतरिक और बाह्य दोनों कारकों के समन्वय के कारण बढ़ रहा है। चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, भारत की राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा के समक्ष ड्रग ट्रैफिकिंग से उत्पन्न चुनौतियों का उल्लेख कीजिए।

Drug trafficking in India is influenced by both internal demand and external supply factors.

Internal Factors

① Weak laws and Regulations
- Narcotic & Psychotropic substances Act.
- Inefficiency of investigative agencies

② Demand for drugs created by
- social factors - peer pressure, unemployment glorification by media
- biological predisposition
- psychological - family problem, stress. childhood trauma

External factors

① Geographical proximity to Golden cresent (Iran, Afghanistan pakistan) and golden triangle (Cambodia, Thailand Myanmar)
huge quantity of Opioids, cocaine, heroine smuggled into India

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Challenges Posed due to Drug Trafficking

① Security Challenges

↳ Leads to terror financing
(2015 Pathankot blasts due to terror financing created by drug trafficking)

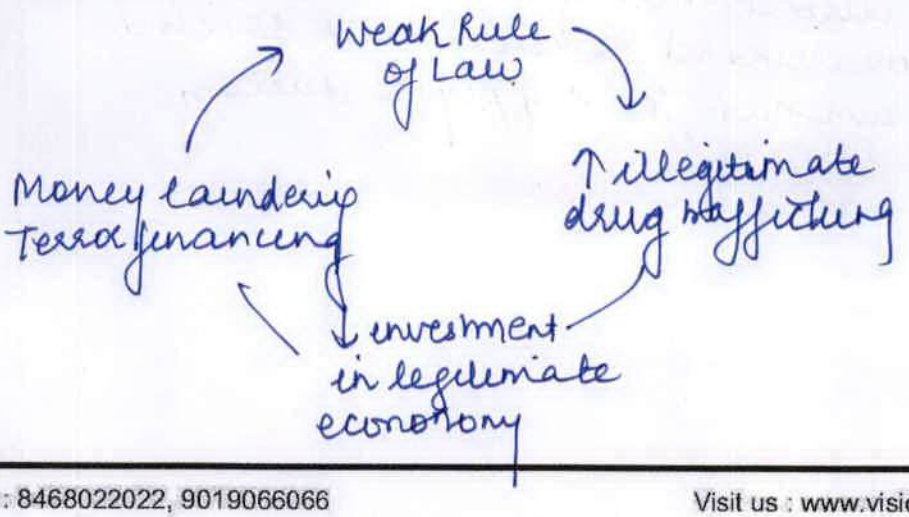
↳ leads to encouragement of insurgency in border states (eg ULFA)

↳ Precursor to Arms trafficking
(Arms traffickers check routes through drug trafficking)

② Social capital loss

- Affects health of youth < Mental / Psycological
- causes interruption in education (anxiety, lack of focus)
- erosion of family values.

③ Economic loss



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Thus legitimate economy suffers due to drug trafficking.

Government steps
- → Drug demand Reduction plan
- → Nasha Mukt Bharat
  - ↳ Youth drug abuse curb campaign
- → Drug Reduction Reserve fund
  - ↳ financial assistance
- → Stricter Border control & custom checks

Wayforward
- → Adoption of best practices
  - (eg Buddy Programme - Punjab government
  - to make vulnerable youth aware of ill effects of drugs
- → Destigmatisation of victims so they can seek help.

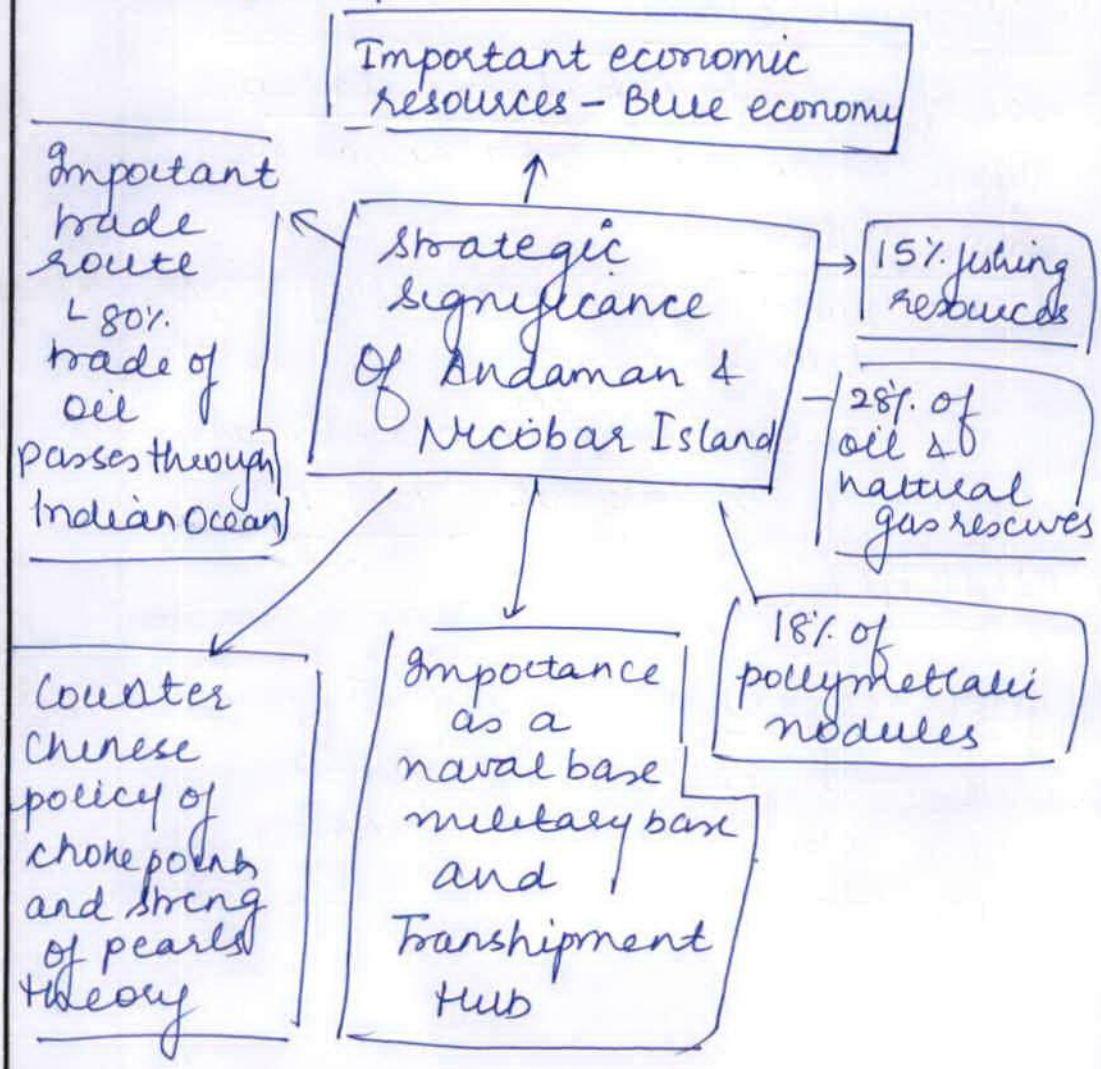
Thus, the looming terror of drug trafficking must be curbed through behaviour change for demand reduction & strictly law enforcement for supply reduction

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

19. The Andaman and Nicobar islands' strategic significance in the Indian Ocean region (IOR) has been underplayed by India's policy of 'masterly inactivity and benign neglect'. Critically discuss. **(250 words) 15**

हिंद महासागर क्षेत्र (IOR) में अंडमान और निकोबार द्वीप समूह के रणनीतिक महत्व को भारत की 'कुशल अकर्मण्यता और सौम्य उपेक्षा' की नीति के तहत कम करके आंका गया है। समालोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए।

The Andaman and Nicobars islands are inseparable part of India's heritage but their strategic significance have not been realised due to india's distorted policy.



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However, Indian policy has been that of:-

(1) Masterly Inactivity

↳ PRISON ISLAND during colonial era have not recieved fruits of development.

↳ Lack of connectivity with mainland remained aloof from infrastructure connectivity

(2) BENIGN NEGLECT

↳ Presence of a large tribal population (Eg:- Onge, Shompen, great nicobarese Sentinelese
↳ instance of attacks with foreign tourists)

↳ No effort to integrate them with mainstream society due to ~~Panchseel~~ TRIBAL PANCHSHEEL

↳ Rugged Terrain and Harsh Tropical Rainfall with thick dense forests have not evoked much government attention

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

However, certain reforms have been undertaken :- INFRASTRUCTURE

1. Construction of Airstrip (BAAZ) and a naval port (INS Kolhassa) to counter Chinese influence in the region.

2. Construction of Chennai - Andaman Optical fibre network

3. INSTITUTIONAL - Establishment of Island Development Corporation to oversee development in the region

4. POLICY - Policies like Blue Economy, Sagar policy give due emphasis to islands in engine of development

5. However, a lot more needs to be done,

Wayforward → Andaman & Nicobar islands can ensure economic & geopolitical security through development of a TRANSHIPMENT PORT HUB

(Replicate the growth story of chittagong port)

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

20. India has recently commissioned the world's first large International Liquid-Mirror Telescope (ILMT). How will the newly commissioned telescope aid in India's astronomical observations and research? **(250 words) 15**

हाल ही में, भारत ने विश्व का पहला विशाल इंटरनेशनल लिक्विड-मिरर टेलीस्कोप (ILMT) स्थापित किया है। यह नवनिर्मित टेलीस्कोप खगोलीय पर्यवेक्षणों और अनुसंधान में भारत की किस प्रकार सहायता करेगा?

The International liquid Mirror Telescope of India commissioned in Devasthal is the world's first large ILMT and a proof that India has arrived in the arena of astronomical observation and research.

The newly commissioned ILMT will aid the astronomical observation & research in the following way:-

① Provide scientific impetus and infrastructural boost in space observation - new discoveries on phenomenas like supernova, black holes, big bang, Quasars, gravitational lensing etc.

② This will help to gain practical proof of concept for some scientific theories and will give a push to interplanetary exploration

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(3) It will supplement India's effort of LIGO, Project NETRA and Hysis for neutrinos, and other space particles

(4) Aid missions like Gaganyaan & ~~Mangalyaan~~ Chandrayaan-2

(5) Empower leadership in early warning system about hazardous space debris or flyby asteroids.

(6) will also ensure continuous surveillance of India's space assets against malacious attacks

(7) This will lead to more such international collaborations between India & UK, France Belgium etc.

However, ILMT must also be complemented with adequate enticement of curiousity from Indian students, The ISRO's YUVIKA programme can pave way for genuine interest in space research.

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)